

Hafa Adai!

Rice co-op confirms 'almost guaranteed' price hike.

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China to offer broad aid to Pacific nations.

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75¢

Housing perk for CHC staff no more

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

With the law creating the housing allowance for off-island hires long expired, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the entity that operates the public hospital, finally announced that all housing benefits are to be stopped, effective last Friday.

However, if an employee still has a current contract that stipulates the allowance, then CHCC will honor that contract and continue to pay the housing benefit until the expiration of the contract, said CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña.

She said the removal of the allowance is long overdue since the law that created it had already expired but the corporation opted to maintain the benefit until

See HOUSING on Page PB

» Those still under old contract will get benefit until contract expires



Muña



MARK RABAGO

PUBLIC HEARING

Acting public auditor Michael Pai talks to Department of Public Lands Secretary Pedro A. Tenorio before the start of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations hearing last Friday at the Senate chamber. The panel met to receive testimony on Pai's re-appointment as public auditor of the Commonwealth.

Inos green-lights Sea Touch project

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Sea Touch Saipan LLC can now proceed with its plan to build a \$1.125-million shark and stingray marine park project at the beachfront of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos approved the submerged land lease agreement between the company and the Department of Land and Natural Resources after signing House Bill 18-198, HS1



Inos

into law on Friday. The measure is now Public Law 18-68.

"Because DLNR has conducted a thorough examination and careful consideration and has determined that this project will not adversely affect the protection, preservation, and uses of marine resources, I am pleased to affix my signature to the Sea Touch Saipan bill," the governor said.

See INOS on Page PB

H.I.S. opens charter flights from Russia to NMI

Established Japanese tour operator H.I.S. will commence charter flights to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands from the Far East Russia beginning February 2015.

Direct charter flights to the CNMI will be conducted from Vladivostok and Khabarovsk on a B737-700 aircraft operated by Yakutia Airlines. Total airlift is 132 seats, including eight business class seats.



Tenorio

Flights to the CNMI from Khabarovsk and Vladivostok will be operated every 10 days. The first flight from Khabarovsk will depart on Feb. 25, 2015, while first flight from Vladivostok will be conducted on Feb. 26, 2015.

Tour and air tickets sales will begin on Monday (Nov. 17, 2014). On Nov. 17-18, 2014, H.I.S. and representatives of Yakutia Airlines and

See H.I.S. on Page PB

INSIDE



LOCAL

The second Grilled Cheese Cookoff raises up to \$1,450 for two CNMI charities.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Here are 10 easy things that you can do right now to live longer.

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LIFE & STYLE

Jennifer Aniston is willing to try a third installment of "Horrible Bosses."

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GOT A NEWS TIP?

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Local

Grilled cheese cookoff raises \$1,450 for island charities

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The second annual Grilled Cheese Cookoff was held yesterday at Garapan Central Park pavilion, with awards going out to the top competitors in the Suhweet, Purist, Crowd Favorite, and Whodathunkit categories.

Last night's event raised up to \$1,450 for the CNMI Salvation Army's soup kitchen and the Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands. Last year's event raised over \$1,400 as well.

The event was limited to 20 competitors and featured hotel chefs, couples, and sole practitioners of the grilled cheese arts.

For crowd favorites, first

place went to Team Hyatt. They brought the Cajun-style of New Orleans to the competition. Second place went to Pimento Pals, and third place went to Say Cheese.

For the purist category, Christopher Jones, an instructor of psychology at Northern Marianas College, won first place.

"I won something in my life! I'm going to Disneyland. I can't believe it," he quipped upon receiving the award.

Second place went to Hon-eymooners and XOXO.

Under the Suhweet category, first place went to the Madden Mustached Methologists, made up of sisters Laila and Farah Boyer. Second place went to Cellar Charms' Jean Rayphand, and third went to



Pineapple Express.

For the Whodathunkit Category, first place went to William Duffy. He loaded his grilled-cheese concoction with barbecued pulled-pork. Second place went to B's Bistro and CheeRio.

Shelly Scott organized the event. Representatives of both charities judged the competition with island dignitaries and a professional chef. Prizes included limited edition aprons, engraved spatulas, cell phones and gift certificates to various businesses on island.

DENNIS B. CHAN
Team Hyatt was the top crowd favorite in the second annual Grilled Cheese Cookoff at the Garapan Central Park pavilion last night.



DENNIS B. CHAN

Christopher Jones won first place under the "Purist" category of last night's Grilled Cheese Cookoff at the Garapan Central Park pavilion.



DENNIS B. CHAN

William Duffy won first place in the Whodathunkit category during last night's second annual Grilled Cheese Cookoff. He won for his grilled cheese with barbecued pulled-pork recipe.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Sora IkeTabi Festa Sendai

The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) participated in the consumer travel show **Sora Ike**

Tabi Festa 2014 in Sendai, Japan on Oct. 18-19, 2014.

The travel show, organized by the **Sendai Airport Internationalization Promotion Committee** and the **Japan Association of Travel Agents**, was held at **Sun Mall Ichiban-cho** and was also sponsored by the **Sendai Chamber of Commerce**.



The MVA answered questions at this booth, where is also distributed brochures, **Saipan-da** backpacks, stickers, and badges. An estimated 53,780 visitors attended



the travel show, an increase of 5,780 over last year. A total of 39 tourism-related organizations participated in the event, including national tourist offices, local governments, airlines, and travel agencies. This year's event was the largest ever.



IF CALIFORNIA DROUGHT PERSISTS**Rice co-op confirms 'almost guaranteed' price increase**

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Above average rain or snow is needed to avoid a spike in prices for California rice, according to Rose Cruz, president of R&E International, which serves as the broker for the Farmers Rice Cooperative in Sacramento, California, in the Guam-CNMI region.

This "above average" rain needed would be a sharp turn away from the historic drought that's going on in California, which now enters a steady and devastating four-year march.

An estimated 95 percent of the state is in "severe" to "exceptional" drought, according to an Associated Press report late last month. With this, Cruz said that higher rice prices are "probable for 2015."

How much will prices rise in the region? That, Cruz said, depends on rain/snow fall throughout winter in the next few months.

"We need above average precipitation this winter to refill our reservoirs. If that doesn't happen we're almost guaranteed to see a supply decrease and prices firm," Cruz said.

The cooperative has reported a 25-percent decrease in harvested crop compared to last year due to the severe drought. Pricing for California Calrose rice in 2014 has been approximately 20 to 25 percent higher than before the drought struck, according to Cruz.

Other medium grain rice exporters such as Australia and Egypt are also experiencing decreases in their supply, she said, which is helping support the higher prices now.

Long term, however, she said this will "stimulate a worldwide

increase in medium grain rice production and should result in a decrease of prices."

The cooperative's pricing level has actually remained flat since the spring 2014 harvest, she said, but the poor harvest has made it more difficult to compete with international sources of rice.

"With the price of other rice commodities such as long grain and jasmine in an oversupply situation, our product can become less competitive and sales may decrease," she said.

However, Cruz stressed that islands like Guam and Saipan are "key markets for the Farmer's Rice Cooperative."

"Even through a decrease in production, we will continue to supply these market's need going forward," she assured.

As reported earlier, a promotion period has been ongoing from Oct. 27 to Nov. 21. The holiday promotion now, Cruz said, is to ensure wholesalers and retailers have high quality rice this holiday season.

The cooperative will bring its "No. 1 brand"—Diamond G Calrose Rice—to its customers during this period. She said the promotion "will consist of new crop recently harvested and milled fresh."

California's drought has also affected supply and pricing of most commodities produced in the area, according to Cruz. All crops have been competing for water, prices of water are increasing, and along with this, the cost of crop fertilizers and diesel for tractors "remain strong," she said.

Overall, this results in high production costs for California farmers, she said.

According to Cruz, the top

rice buyers on Saipan are Pacific Grocers, Luen Fung Enterprises, Twins Supermarket, and JC Tenorio.

As reported earlier, the com-

petitive price for Joeten hovers around \$33.99 to \$34.99 according to head buyer and wholesale manager Clarence Tenorio. This is 30-percent

jump from Joeten's \$25.99 price in January this year, he said.

Twin Supermarket similarly has increased their prices. Last

year, Twins sold Diamond G rice at \$28.99 per 50 lbs. Now they sell it for \$32.99.

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Triple J Motors awaits guidance on airbag recall

Triple J Motors Saipan is still awaiting guidance from their manufacturers on the recall of cars with potential airbag problems.

According to Triple J Motors general manager Randy Steele, they haven't received any formal recall procedure yet from their manufacturers.

Manufacturers for Triple J Motors include Mazda Motor Corp., Mitsubishi Motor Corp., and Hyundai Motor Corp.

"Because the manufacturers that we represent have not yet included Saipan in any formal recall procedure...I don't want to speculate about the car models on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website and how many of those cars may still be on the road on Saipan," Steele said.

He said Mazda is conducting a field study via voluntary recall in three Southern states and Puerto Rico.

"The study is not yet complete and the results of such

study will determine if they will extend this recall," Steele said.

He pointed out that Mitsubishi has limited models that used the Takata airbags in the timeline of concern and they are still researching if any potentially affected models made it here to Saipan.

"Hyundai, though, does not use Takata as a supplier," Steele said.

Under the Mazda models, a total of 64,872 models may be affected. Car model years included Mazda 6 from 2003 to 2007, Mazda Speed 6 from 2006 to 2007, Mazda RX-8 from 2004 to 2008, MPV from 2004 to 2005, and B-Series Truck starting from 2004.

Respectively, Mitsubishi has a total number of 11,985 potentially affected vehicles. This includes Lancer from 2004 to 2005 and Raider from 2006 to 2007.

According to NHTSA, about seven million vehicles are involved in the recalls. (Jayson Camacho)



FLYING COLORS

MARK RABAGO

Acting public auditor Michael Pai poses with members of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations headed by its chair Sen. Francisco Q. VCruz (R-Tinian) last Friday at the Senate chamber. The committee heard testimonies on the re-appointment of Pai as public auditor of the Commonwealth.

Deleon Guerrero awaits CUC input on CPUC bill

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two board meetings have passed since the topic came up of drafting a bill that would require the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission to come out with decisions within

a fixed timeframe but, according to Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), he has yet to receive any comments from CUC.

As chairman of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication, Deleon Guerrero

informed the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board and executives on Sept. 30, 2014, that he would draft such a bill if needed.

Earlier, CUC board chair David Sablan Jr. and other board members recommended to the Legislature to amend the law governing the CPUC so it

would be required come up with decisions faster.

"This is due to long periods of time it takes the commission to make a decision on rate case petitions," Sablan said.

Sablan noted that CUC board had submitted a recommendation to Sen. Pete P. Reyes (Ind-

Saipan), who chairs the Senate PUTC, to amend Public Law 15-23 and give the commission a fixed timeframe to issue decisions on rate case petitions presented by CUC. The same recommendation was also addressed to the House of Representatives.

Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* that he is still waiting for comments from CUC. "What I need from CUC in order to draft this bill is the overall scope such as the time that the commission needs to review rate decisions and contracts. Because in my understanding there are also contract reviews," Deleon Guerrero said.

He said that even if CUC submitted its recommendation to the Senate, the bill will still have to through the House of Representatives, after which

both chambers will have a joint deliberation on what to do with the bill itself.

He said he agrees with the CUC board on a specific timeframe, but CUC has to identify what timeline is reasonable for which type of petition, whether it is for a rate increase or decrease, a new charge or fee, or any changes in rates.

"It all has to be broken down. This came up because the commission took about a year to come up with a decision. If they give us what is reasonable, we can have other considerations if the Legislature reviews what CUC needs," he said.

Sablan declined to comment any further on the matter.

CUC executive director Alan Fletcher has yet to respond to *Saipan Tribune* queries as of press time.

WHO calls diabetes rates in Pacific 'extreme'

» Data shows A. Samoa rates at 47 pct. of adult population

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—The World Health Organization says the incidence of diabetes in the Pacific is now

extreme and some countries have the highest rates in the world.

WHO's noncommunicable disease technical officer Peter Hoejskov says complications from diabetes, such as amputations and blindness, have a huge personal cost on lives and economic cost on a country's development.

He says diabetes in Pacific countries is now extremely common.

"We have seen some preliminary figures coming out of American Samoa saying 47 percent of the adult population; Cook Islands 24 percent; Fiji down to 16; Federated States of Micronesia just over 30 percent;

Niue 38 percent; and so on. So it ranges a bit but most of them are in the very high end."

Hoejskov says diabetes is now being seen by some as an inevitable disease but it can be prevented and turned around with a healthy diet, 30 minutes of daily exercise and medical treatment if necessary.

INOS

From Page 1

Inos hopes the shark and stingray marine park project will enhance the CNMI as a tourism destination as well as contribute to the government's coffers.

"This revenue-generating bill will add value to our islands as a unique tourist destination. As we continue to see our tourism numbers increase, it makes

sense to combine our natural resources with new technology in a sustainable way with a project such as the Sea Touch Saipan. I'm excited to see this project up and running."

Baldyga Group special projects director Troy Williams welcomed Inos' signing of the submerged land lease agreement.

"We are extremely happy and looking forward to setting up a world-class operation [on] Saipan. Upon word of the signing we have executed lease

agreements and moved forward with purchasing our equipment for installation. We will begin hiring in December," he said.

Baldyga Group, which operates SandCastle at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, owns Sea Touch and has already spent \$275,000 for the project.

The submerged land lease between Sea Touch and DLNR is for 1,481 square meters located by the Fiesta Resort & Spa beachside in Garapan.

Under the agreement, Sea

Touch will pay DLNR \$12,000 a year for five years. The lease may be renewed for up to 20 more years, with each renewal term of up to five years. Williams also promised that the company would employ 10 to 12 local staff.

Sea Touch agreement is a landmark deal since it will be the first time the CNMI will be leasing its submerged lands after President Barack Obama reconveyed its 3-mile submerged lands back to the islands in 2013.

HOUSING

From Page 1

this point when it can no longer afford it.

Public Law 14-91 [Extension of the Sunset Provision Act] expired on Sept. 30, 2007, for positions other than physicians and dentists. That law states that housing benefits shall remain for off-island recruits "for a period of not more than two years after the effective date of this

act, and such regulations may not be amended."

Muña said that after the expiration of a current contract, the next contract won't provide any housing benefit.

As for employees who have yet to sign a new contract with the corporation, their new contract will have the housing benefit removed effective Dec. 1, 2014.

Muña noted that the corporation spends over \$650,000 a year on housing benefits alone.

"There is obviously a gap

between local nurses' salaries and foreign nurses' salaries. The corporation believes that in order to move forward in having fair compensation that also incorporates merit and performance, this gap needs to be removed," she said.

"Please understand that this decision was not easy but we feel it is necessary in order to move forward with plans to evaluate the compensation of our staff and to consider plans to maintain the corporation's

hardworking and dedicated staff in the long-term. We sincerely appreciate all of the staff's hard work and dedication over the years and hope that they understand this difficult decision," she added.

Muña said that human resources will be working with the nursing director, hospital administrator, and resident directors to process a fair evaluation of all staff in the following months and salary increases will be determined by performance.

H.I.S.

From Page 1

Marianas Visitors Authority will hold press conferences for media and travel agents in Khabarovsk and Vladivostok to announce the charter program.

"We are very glad starting charter flights to the Northern Mariana Islands. We would like to share the best spotlight of Saipan as a beautiful and attractive beach destination to Russian travelers," said Satoshi Omuro, general director H.I.S. Russia. "With support from our local H.I.S. travel agency branches, the charter flights truly demonstrate our continued strong commitment to the Saipan market."

"The Marianas Visitors Authority is very excited about the launch of direct charter flights from Russia by H.I.S. in Febru-

ary 2015," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "We are very grateful to H.I.S. for their longstanding commitment as our tourism partner here in the Northern Mariana Islands, and this new venture provides an opportunity for us to further that partnership. We look forward to welcoming more Russian visitors to our relaxed, tropical paradise in the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

The Northern Mariana Islands has become a very popular and favorite travel destination for the Far East Russia tourists, who comprise the lion's share of total arrivals to the CNMI from Russia. The new charter flight program brings back the opportunity of choice between charter flights and regular routes to the CNMI for Russian tourists and will help restore and increase arrivals from Russia to the CNMI. (MVA)

Sablan elected chair of NMI Museum board



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI Museum board of governors pose for a photo after their most recent meeting, which saw the election of new officers. Pictured from left to right are Angel Hocog, board secretary; Mertie Kani, Mark Rabauliman, Maggie Sablan, chairperson; Scott Russell, and executive director Robert Hunter. Not pictured is John Gonzalez, vice chairperson.

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The newly reorganized board of the NMI Museum of History and Culture has elected Maggie S. Sablan as its chair during the body's first meeting at the Northern Marianas Humanities Council conference room in Gualo Rai last Wednesday.

Sablan attributed her willingness to lead the board to "great mentors" during her time nine years ago as the museum's executive director. Those past mentors include prior board members Herman Guerrero, Herbert Del Rosario, Genevieve Cabrera and others.

Sablan worked at the museum for about three and half years. She is currently the manager of the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, the charitable arm of Tan Holdings Corp.

During Wednesday's meeting, Sablan urged board members to take the time to visit the museum.

"I ask everyone that we work

together and help each other to get things done for the museum," Sablan said.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* it is a privilege to serve on the board but to be the chair is something else. "I will be addressing the issues of what the CNMI Museum is facing. Based on the executive director's report, we have our hands full," she said.

"The museum houses everything that identifies us [the CNMI, the islands, and its people]. It is our duty to protect and preserve them. Otherwise everything about us will be lost and no one will know," Sablan said. "With that said, I am encouraging our people both young and old to visit the museum so we can all have a voice that our history is properly reserved."

Sablan said the issues the new board will address include staffing, facility maintenance and equipment, and funding.

The museum has two employees right now: an executive

director and a groundskeeper. When Sablan was still the executive director, there was a total of eight staff.

"I am hoping that the board will join hands and try to work with the Legislature and [Inos] administration. I urge our leaders to come down and see what the state of the museum it is in," Sablan said.

One of the things the new board wants to do right away is work with the Inos administration to fill the three remaining vacancies on the board so they could work together and address the museum's problems.

Other board members are vice chair John Gonzales, secretary Angel Hocog, Scott Russell, Mark Rabauliman, Mertie Kani, and executive director Robert Hunter.

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Kilili is grateful to Faleomavaega; looks forward to work with Amata

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

While he is ready to work with congresswoman-elect Aumua Amata of American Samoa in the 114th U.S. Congress, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the CNMI should be thankful for outgoing delegate Eni Faleomavaega for his years of helping the Commonwealth.

"I look forward to working effectively with Ms. Aumua Amata, American Samoa's delegate-elect. The insular area representatives often have common interests and we were working very closely together. I am sure that will be the case with Delegate Amata and with the new delegate from the U.S. Virgin Islands, Ms. Stacey Plaskett, in

the 114th Congress that begins in January," he told *Saipan Tribune* in a recent email.

Sablan said Faleomavaega has always been a friend of the Commonwealth and has come to the defense of the islands' interests.

"Congressman Faleomavaega has become my friend over the last six years and he has really been a friend to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands throughout his 26 years in Congress. When we had no one representing us in Congress, Congressman Faleomavaega, the most senior among the delegates, would go to bat for us. And for that we should be very grateful to him."

Amata, who ran under the Republican Party banner, unseated Faleomavaega who ran under the Democratic Party ear-

lier this month.

Amata cornered 4,306 votes (42.0 percent) to Faleomavaega's 3,571 votes (30.8 percent). Aside from Faleomavaega and Amata, seven other candidates sought the position.

A congressional staffer in Washington, D.C. for 10 years before seeking a seat, Amata will be the first woman to serve as American Samoa's non-voting delegate in U.S. Congress.

Faleomavaega, meanwhile, was first elected in 1989 and previously served as American Samoa's lieutenant governor.

Sablan, an independent, won a fourth consecutive second-year term to U.S. Congress after defeating NMI Democratic Party candidate Andrew Salas in the Nov. 4 general elections in the CNMI.

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Zoning to push bill on abandoned buildings with Saipan delegation

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Zoning Office is asking the Legislature to hold off any action on a bill that addresses abandoned buildings and wants the bill to be referred to the Saipan and Northern Island Delegation instead.

The 24-page House Bill 18-71, titled “Nuisance Abatement and Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2013,” was acted upon by the Senate in May 2014 but was tabled after several senators raised some concerns. It was then returned to the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Programs, chaired by Sen. Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian).

It’s been nearly five months and there has been no action on the bill whatsoever.

“The public has been asking what we are doing about the problems and have raised concerns about their children’s safety around their own neighborhoods, and we have been asking them for their patience as we await passage of a bill from the Senate to address them. But it’s been months now and there’s still no action yet,” said Zoning Office Therese administrator Ogumoro.

To expedite the bill’s passage, Ogumoro wrote Borja on Oct. 29, 2014, telling him that her

office is working on having the bill passed by the Saipan and Northern Islands legislative delegation.

“I would like to respectfully request for your understanding to hold off further actions on this bill by your committee, as our office now prepares to request action directly from the legislative delegation,” Ogumoro stated in her letter.

Ogumoro said her office needs to address the issue of abandoned buildings as soon as possible because their latest inventory in March showed that there are over 55 such buildings along Saipan’s main thoroughfares.

“This is just the thoroughfares and doesn’t include the secondary roads,” she said.

Blighted properties can create an increased risk to the community from unsecured or open doors and windows, broken water pipes, theft of metals and other materials, overgrowth of grass, weeds, shrubs, and bushes, illegal dumping, and rodent and vermin infestation.

One community member cited the abandoned buildings heading south toward the Pacific Island Club as eyesores.

“It is embarrassing when buses from different hotels head to PIC and with Coral Ocean Point. Tourist will see how bad businesses or property owners

are because it is just ugly. Who wants to come to a so-called paradise when you see buildings that downgrade the vision of our island?” the person said.

Another said he is saddened to see the Legislature not acting on any measures that address abandoned properties.

“It’s a nuisance. I go home to As Matuis and La Fiesta and other [blighted] properties along the way just create so many issues. Some children from our village sometimes go to La Fiesta and cause more damage. You don’t even know if that place is being used for drugs. You never know what is going on there,” he said.

HY retracts Juan I. Tenorio endorsement

“We apologize to Mr. Juan I. Tenorio for our failure to properly vet the press statement with him prior to its release. We retract his endorsement in its entirety,” according to a statement from the Hofschneider-Yumul campaign committee.

“I offer my sincerest apologies to Mr. Tenorio for the error and apologize for any harm that may have resulted from our actions,” said Heinz Hofschneider, gubernatorial candidate. (PR)

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'Legislature needs to clarify OPA prosecutorial powers'

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Acting public auditor Michael Pai told the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations that there is a need for the Legislature to review the Office of Public Auditor's prosecutorial powers.

Speaking before his confirmation hearing at the Senate chamber on Friday, Pai said the statute that lays out the OPA's prosecutorial powers appears to be ambiguous and subject to different interpretations as what happened to the case the agency brought against former Aging Center director Rose DLG. Mondala.

"I feel like we do need that power to prosecute cases. This is a question that has been talked about even during previous public auditors. Not only during my term but previous public auditors have been asked the same question. I do feel [with regards to] the prosecution power we have in the books, the language is a little bit ambiguous. That's why our legal counsel, Mr. George Hasselback, has to revise the legal language. Since it's a statute, the new language should be passed by the Legislature so we're working on that," Pai told reporters after the hearing.



Pai

Last Sept. 10, the Superior Court dismissed the case against Mondala, ruling that the appointment of Hasselback as a special assistant attorney general in the case violates the separation of powers doctrine. Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo ruled that the Office of Attorney General violated the separation of powers by delegating general prosecutorial powers to members of an agency that has no such legislatively created authority.

Despite the Mondala case being dismissed without prejudice (which means a new case can be re-filed on the same claim or allegations in the future), Pai believes that OPA's partnership with the OAG and the Department of Public Safety is still paying dividends.

The case against Mondala was a result of an OPA investigation presented to a Joint Task Force composed of the OAG, OPA, and the DPS.

"I think it's been successful. They talked about the case that was dismissed by the courts [but] it's a legal interpretation. I believe Mr. Hasselback and the Attorney General [Gilbert Birnbrich] have agreed to maybe open the case under OAG's jurisdiction. In the meantime we disagreed with the courts

misinterpretation so I believe Mr. Hasselback and the attorney general are drafting a response to the courts. We don't want to set a legal precedent that that's the way it's interpreted."

Mondala has been charged with 22 counts of forgery; six

counts of misconduct in public office; eight counts of use of public supplies, time, and personnel for campaign activities; two counts of use of public position to obtain benefits for business or social acquaintances; one count of theft ser-

vices; one count of theft; and one count of use of office, staff or employees of a public office for personal benefit.

All counts relate to a period of time between June 15, 2009, and Dec. 10, 2010, while Mondala was the director of the Office of

Aging, a government agency.

OPA accused the 69-year-old Mondala of using the Aging Office's funds and materials for the needs of the Covenant Party during the 2009 elections and to build a fence at her house in Kagman.



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China to offer broad aid to Pacific region

Chinese President Xi Jinping will offer a broad aid package to Pacific island nations at a summit in Fiji next week, a foreign ministry official said Thursday, adding that there was also room to work with six island states not invited because of ties to Taiwan.

The tiny states of the Pacific Ocean have been a source of diplomatic intrigue between China and Taiwan for decades, with each accusing the other of using "dollar diplomacy" to win recognition.

China views Taiwan as a renegade province with no right to have diplomatic relations of its own, and the number of states with ties to Taipei has dwindled to just 22, six of which are in the Pacific.

Xi will host the meeting of its allies on Fiji. The leaders of Fiji, Micronesia, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, the Cook Islands, Tonga and Niue will attend, Assistant Foreign Minister Zheng Zeguang told a news briefing.

Xi, who visits the region after trips to Australia and New Zealand, will give an "important policy speech" at the meeting, and announce "important steps" to help development, Zheng said.

"During the visit, China will sign a series of cooperative documents with the leaders, as well as business agreements. They will be in

the areas of financing, education, training, infrastructure and such other broad areas," Zheng said, without elaborating.

While Taiwan's friends in the region—Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu—have not been invited, this does not mean that China ignores then, he added.

"China has all along had friendly interactions with the peoples of all the islands in the Pacific Ocean, and exchanges and cooperation continue to increase," Zheng said.

He also held out the chance of more benefits for coun-

tries of the region once they recognize China, rather than Taiwan.

"Under the framework of one China, relations in the future will develop even better. There is a lot of space for cooperation."

A spokeswoman for Tai-

wan's Foreign Ministry said that they will be paying close attention to Xi's visit.

China and Taiwan have been ruled separately since defeated Nationalist forces fled to the island at the end of a civil war with the Communists in 1949.

However, China and Taiwan have engaged in an unofficial diplomatic truce since signing a series of landmark trade and economic pacts in 2008, as China tries to convince Taiwan of its friendly intentions after years of hostility. (Reuters)

» President sees cooperation with Taiwan allies

US, Kiribati agreement seeks to protect marine habitat in Pacific

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell joined Republic of Kiribati President Anote Tong to sign a Cooperative Arrangement to coordinate and jointly support research and conservation activities for

nearly 490,000 square nautical miles in the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument in the United States and the Phoenix Islands Protected Area in Kiribati.

"With this cooperative arrangement, our two nations are embracing a shared vision of marine conservation that crosses political boundaries and helps protect pristine areas in the Pacific," Jewell said at a signing ceremony in conjunction with the International Union for Conservation of Nature's 2014 World Parks Congress. "It is a commitment we are making together for the health of our ocean as it faces growing pressure from climate change, ocean acidification and other threats."

The arrangement strengthens cooperative management of the two protected areas, collectively called the *Phoenix Ocean Arc*, that make up a wide swath of the Pacific, including entire island ecosystems, coral reefs, seamounts and marine areas. Collaborative activities may include scientific research, law enforcement, the removal of shipwrecks, conservation of seabirds and eradication of non-native species, such as rats from atolls.

"This collaborative arrangement will enhance efforts in strengthening enforcement and surveillance and we look forward to working closely with the U.S. on this," said President Tong.

Earlier this year, President Obama signed a proclamation expanding the Monument, one of the most pristine tropical marine environments in the world, to six times its original size. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Monument now protects nearly 490,000 square miles around tropical islands and atolls (including seven national wildlife refuges) in the south-central Pacific Ocean and is the largest marine reserve in the world that is completely off-limits to commercial resource extraction, including commercial fishing.

Kiribati established PIPA in 2008 to protect 157,630 square miles in the central

ON THE NET

■ Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/pacific_remote_islands_marine_national_monument/

■ Phoenix Island Protected Area: <http://www.phoenixislands.org/>

Pacific; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has recognized it as a World Heritage Site. The government of Kiribati recently announced the closure of PIPA to commercial activities to be enforced starting in January 2015. Both PIPA and the Monument are sites with strong conservation mandates; opportunities for global research; challenges to managing and enforcing regulations; and threats from illegal or unregulated fishing and trespassing.

With pressures on the ocean increasing, permanent protections for the most valuable and productive marine ecosystems are especially important. Enhanced coordination between PIPA and the Monument will provide an expanded safe haven for fish and other wildlife to live unharmed by commercial activity.

"The Pacific Ocean provides food security, global weather and climate stability, recreation and inspiration, jobs and prosperity," Jewell said. "Protecting the health and integrity of these vast wild areas and their marine wildlife is good national and international policy and demonstrates to the world the benefits of cross-border marine protection."

In June, President Tong was a featured speaker at the Department of State-hosted 'Our Ocean' Conference. The conference brought together individuals, experts, practitioners, advocates, lawmakers and the international ocean and foreign policy communities to gather lessons learned, share the best science, offer unique perspectives and demonstrate effective actions to chart a way forward to protect the ocean. (DOI)

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Village Roadways Signage Improvements/Repainting

Installation of traffic lights in Chalan Kanoa

Deficit cut by around \$230 million

Enacted the first Integrated Resort bill for Saipan

Helped secure a rebate of more than \$650 to all CUC users.

Restored 25% in retiree benefits

Stopped Austerity Measures

90% 24-hour water service achieved

\$11 million in highway infrastructures contracts (36 months)

\$53 million plus in CIP funds obligated

Improvements to health centers in Rota and Tinian

Acquisition of landfill equipment for Rota and Tinian

• **Improvements to Tinian Harbor**

• **10 MW Solar Energy Contract signed**

• **Projected \$1.267 Billion in Economic Activity in 2014**

• **\$150,000 to revitalize the Carolinian Utt Project**

• **First Government to fully fund Retirement fund in more than 10 years**

• **Fully Restored interests payments to defined benefit plan beneficiaries**

• **Secured Federal funding for DPS to provide new vehicles, equipment, and uniforms for the department**

• **Saved Retirement Fund from Bankruptcy**

• **Secured CW Extension until 2019 with Congressman Sablan**

• **\$60 million in federal and local dollars on major development projects at ports of entry in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota**

**“On November 21st
Please Vote #1 for Inos and Torres!**

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Who will pay to stop Ebola?

Now that the American public has had a chance to see that the very few cases of Ebola in this country have little chance of leading to a dangerous outbreak, it's time to return our attention to the three West African nations where the virus is a daily and deadly threat.

President Barack Obama has proposed doing just that with a call to allocate \$6.2 billion, on top of the \$1 billion the U.S. government already has committed, to fight Ebola. Some of that money would be for better monitoring and tracking within the United States, but the bulk of it would go toward escalating the battle in West Africa, both for treatment now and for the development of future vaccines or treatments.

It's frustrating that many countries have not been as generous as the United States and, relative to its size, Cuba in offering aid to Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Australia, for instance, banned many travelers from the three Africa countries from obtaining Australian visas without offering any real assistance to contain the disease in Africa. Only last week—after withering criticism from the Australian news media—did the government ramp up its effort. And even now it isn't sending any of its desperately needed medical personnel to help in the anti-Ebola effort, but rather will contract with a private provider to run a 100-bed facility. Last week, World Bank President Jim Yong Kim lambasted the many Asian nations that have contributed little or nothing.

The do-little attitude of other nations should not keep the United States from going forward with the significant new aid proposed by Obama. There are signs of some abatement in Ebola's spread in Liberia, where the United States has concentrated its efforts, an indication that the health-care investment is starting to pay off.

But it does mean that the time has come for a global conversation about rebuilding the finances and structure of the World Health Organization, which lost considerable international funding during the recession and was unable to respond effectively to the Ebola outbreak in its earliest stages. This is a problem that goes well beyond the current Ebola crisis.

Such discussions also should be a part of the 2015 United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Paris. Developing nations are expected to be particularly vulnerable to global warming's effects, including catastrophic flooding, famine-inducing drought and outbreaks of certain diseases. How will developed nations—the biggest spewers of greenhouse gases—apportion the financial burden of humanitarian response? The world shouldn't wait for the next catastrophe before deciding this.

(c) 2014 Los Angeles Times



The last samurai

The fuss over the role of Jiang Zemin, China's last "paramount leader," indicates that the CPC is not an 80-million-member party marching in tandem following orders. In China, intra-politics is a steady spice on the regular menu. Jiang Zemin at 88, in a readjustment process, will die in peace, though his reputation may not remain intact, similar to that of Mao and Deng before him.

Japan's warfare technology modernizes and puts down a recalcitrant samurai in the movie of our title. After the noble warrior in the movie is defeated (superbly played by Ken Watanabe), the young emperor asked an American soldier who fought with the samurai: "Tell me how he died." Tom Cruise, who played the soldier, replies: "No, but I will tell you how he lived."

("Tell me how the Micronesian navigator and land tiller died?") The sailors gave up canoe and the Chinese, easy victims of homicide, replaced the tillers while the rest and the best were sunshine lured to The Casino!)

Living and dying are both sides of the same coin. I began a conscious journey into dying this year. That's "physical" death when my 14 billion-year-old carbon returns to the universal pool, and my viruses are added to the gene bank. "Spirit" life is my conscious participation in the cessation of my cellular make-up, the end of a way of life, stoppage of a social pattern, the terminus of a group-promoted behavior.

At a conference on Saipan, I conversed with a Pohnpeian and a UH professor where I described my experience in Micronesia while living in Majuro in '82. I said that girls played snookers at a downtown pool hall in Pohnpei wearing nothing but bra. The Pohnpeian explained that girls were no longer allowed to parade bare in public places.

A Navy officer who heard our conversation told of a trip to the outer islands of Yap where the girls and boys were still innocently oblivious to the moral notion of attire to hide body parts not displayed in "civilized" society. In the tropical islands where one is endowed with melanin that allows for convenient exposure to the sun, there was no reluctance to bask in one's birthday suit.

Sh*it happens. The professor ranted against modernity vulgarizing islanders' innocence. He probably viewed too many of Paul Gauguin *faux* romantic canvases depicting simple elegance in Polynesia. Gauguin's primitive art did call attention to the art-form of Africa, Micronesia and Native America after he oiled the virtues of Tahiti on canvas, so we thank him for that.

The professor asked if anyone thought modern changes in the islands should be allowed. Duh. Like anyone can stop global change, and we are pleased to know that Club Med dispenses with the bra in its shores!

Myanmar was the last nation to shy from history's mainstream, though now we know that gas had as much weight in

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



the generals' decision to keep a tight grip on the culture from the taint of modern influence. The DPRK has minerals but it is its *Jurche* self-reliant philosophy that keeps it isolated in the peninsula, railing against consumer avarice and consumptive greed south of Panmunjom.

Social structures are in the process of dying. The nation-state as a political entity is collapsing. Folks in smaller units are discovering the power of self-reliance. The CNMI can explore what this means if its kowtow stance to Uncle Sam's uniformed demands on Pagan is to shift toward considering its interest. Similarly, in the Age of Obama, the U.S.' misplaced imperial hegemony is best kept at bay.

China's "one country, two systems" offers 55 ethnic minorities a chance beyond showcase display oddity. Meanwhile, states and military alliances are redrawn in the western Pacific where the CNMI holds strategic military purpose crafted by the U.S. more than half a century ago, to "ride" the disciplined passion of militant Japan in providing logistics in Korea and Vietnam, anchor the dollar in Seoul, and contain the alleged expansionist bent of Mao.

America is racist at the corner of Elm and Main, with color allowed behind service counters but dominantly lily-white in the manager's closed doors. Micronesians dreaming of parity in Covenant live in illusion. The 1861-'65 U.S. Civil War avoided secession but left a nation divided; the struggle for civil rights was revived a century later, and 50 years after, Ferguson MO's polarity reveals the continuing struggle for parity in diversity. We might even actually see Darren Wilson get away with murder!

Lincoln's GOP dances a discordant *do-si-do* with Mitch McConnell and John Boehner to derail a President's final two years. White southern Democrats voted Republican en masse in the midterm elections. We are not done vilifying the WH occupant yet, Obama's resolve to stay the course notwithstanding.

The samurai influenced Japan's code of ethics (*bushido*), but the warrior became a *ronin*, a sword-for-hire, now Tokyo's lawyers. Yesterday is history, the future is mystery, but today is a gift; that's why we call it "The Present"!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A gift for yourself and your family

By JOHN L. DOYLE, MD
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

A famous author/humorist once pointed out that the only two things in life that are certain are death and taxes. He was almost right. There are three things: Death, taxes, and the fact that cigarettes are bad for you. That is the bottom line. We all know people that smoke their whole lives and seem to have no problems. They are in the small minority. The simple fact is that smoking causes emphysema, cancer, heart disease, and blood vessel disease, just to name a few. It is your family that suffers the consequences of lost years and lost companionship as well as having to watch your health decline from a habit that is beatable.

What greater gift could you give to yourself and the ones that you love than to quit smoking? By doing that you are telling them “I love you and you are important to me and I want to be around for many more Christmases.”

That being said, it is a hard thing to quit. There are several reasons why it is so hard.

First, nicotine is addictive. Just like heroin and cocaine and others, it is an addiction.

Addiction occurs when your body becomes adjusted to having a drug in its system. Your body has receptors for that drug. The more drug that you supply, the more receptors you will make. After a while you reach a state where a certain amount of nicotine must be present in your system or you will experience something very uncomfortable called “withdrawal.” These symptoms range from minor discomfort all the way to physical illness. They make it hard to stop when you know that the cure is only a puff away.

Second, you must break the harder and more ingrained habit of the hand-to-mouth response and the habits of smoking at particular times of the day and in certain circumstances.

All smokers have times when the desire to smoke hits and they are not in a position to smoke. All smokers know that the desire will pass and they can go on about their business until time when they can smoke. You can use this to your advantage.

All smokers who have quit are very smug and rightly so. They have broken a very hard habit to beat. However they all have one

thing in common. They finally made their desire not to smoke stronger than their desire to smoke.

It is not all bad news. Nicotine is out of your system in about 48-72 hours. That is how long the withdrawal lasts. After that it is all willpower and retraining yourself not to smoke. There are medications to help, gums to chew, patches to wear, lozenges and other aids to stop smoking. Your health care provider can give you a prescription for meds that will help and get you in touch with the right programs to increase your chances for success.

Wrap up an empty pack of cigarettes and give it to your family and yourself this Christmas and vow to kick the habit once and for all.

So now that you all have decided to quit smoking and made that vow to your families for Christmas, how are you going to do it?

These steps are helpful.

1. Make a list of all the reasons why you want to quit. Keep it where you can see it and refer to it often.

2. Set a quit date. Make it soon enough that you can build your resolve and not let it die away but not so quick that you are unprepared.

3. Make a list of the triggers that make you smoke. For example, with your coffee, when you are driving, after a meal, when you are on the phone. Make plans to deal with those triggers.

4. Let people know your quit date. Enlist their help and encouragement.

5. The night before your quit date smoke your last cigarette. Clean out all of the ashtrays. Throw them away. Make your house and car smoke-free zones.

6. When you wake up on the morning of your quit day begin telling yourself you are a non-smoker. Practice saying “No thanks, I don’t smoke.” Get used to being a non-smoker. Put on clean fresh clothes because by the end of the day you will notice how clean and fresh they are. You will not be carrying the stench of cigarette smoke with you.

7. When the urge strikes to smoke, take a few deep cleansing breaths. Remind yourself that you are choosing not to smoke. Remind yourself why. After a few moments the urge will pass. Do not give in. Do not cheat. You cannot smoke just one (and you know that).

8. Use a prop of some sort if you need to. Chew on a toothpick, a straw, find something to do with your hands and your mind.

9. The first few days it will seem like the urge to smoke hits you about every five minutes. That may be true *but it will pass whether you smoke or not!* After those first two days they will begin to be less and less. They will still occur but you are learning new ways to cope and new things to do so you can be a non-smoker. During this time the nicotine receptors in your body are beginning to shut down. As long as they remain unsaturated they will continue to become dormant. This is where many people fail.

10. At the end of the third or fourth day your body is completely clear of nicotine (if you are not using a replacement such as gum or patches) and you are on the way to breaking the habit. It takes about 12 weeks to break an ingrained habit. This does not mean that you will suffer for 12 weeks. The physical discomfort is over. It is truly a mind over matter issue now. The urge to cheat will be strong. Never reward yourself with a cigarette or even a puff. You are and for many years after will be one puff away from a pack a day. Believe it or not many people fail eight to 12 weeks into quitting because they decide they can handle it and take “just one.” You are an addict and you cannot have just one. You are in “recovery.”

The reason for the above is that you have a heightened number of receptors and a heightened sensitivity to nicotine. While they are dormant they will not bother you. You will not suffer withdrawal of discomfort from not smoking. But if you light up and flood them with nicotine you will turn them all back on full blast and you have to start the whole process over again.

Your health care provider will be thrilled to give you all the information and all the help you need to quit smoking. If you are a do-it-yourselfer then you can go to 1-800-QUITNOW (1-800-784-8669) or online at www.smokefree.gov to get some help and programs to help you. Don’t forget to pray as well before, during and after your quit.

Good health, CNMI!

John L. Doyle, MD, is the Medical Affairs director of the Commonwealth Health Center. This column is an unsolicited and unpaid contribution by the author.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A future we can be proud of

On Nov. 14, the *Marianas Variety* published a press release with the headline “Kumoi joins HY Campaign.” The press release is accurate and I want our voters to further and fully understand what my supporters, my family and I stand for—the critical and urgent need for change in our government.

Earlier this year, I was asked by former governor Babauta to join and assist the Babauta-Torres campaign. I was given the impression and the commitment by both Babauta and Torres that they were both committed to bringing a new future for all the people of the Commonwealth. At that time, I was convinced that Babauta’s and Torres’ principled commitment to better the future of the CNMI was unmatched by any other candidates.

During the campaign, everywhere I go, I met with people and residents who had suffered eight long years of misery under an incompetent government. The hardships are varied and many but the root of the problems were obvious: high utility bills, a failed medical care system, a failed retirement system, lack of employment and education opportunities, rampant crime and drug prevalence and so on. Many households’ livelihoods were impacted by high utility bills that took away a third or more of their incomes, and many households were forced not to even have their lights on. The misery of our people was unbelievable. Our children are living under candlelight conditions. Medical care was simply nonexistent. Our hospital has turned into a morgue. Our retirees had to sell out their principles against casino gaming so that they can survive. Government workers are being fired for their political affiliations. Our people had lost hope. Our people are leaving. We as a community had become no better than people in a third world country. All these were extremely disheartening. The misery drove our energy to bring about change.

After the last election, we were initially disappointed that the Babauta-Torres tandem was not successful. We had worked hard to campaign for a better future of our Commonwealth. We had made a principled stand against the government of Eloy Inos that has failed the people of the Commonwealth. We lost because the Inos Torres’ dirty campaign released retiree checks and CUC vouchers from Best Sunshine just a few days before the election.

It was therefore a complete surprise and shock to the supporters of the Babauta-Torres camp to find out last week that Babauta had officially endorsed the Inos-Torres tandem. The former governor had turned around and switched from his commitment to change. Our principled stand for bringing a better future for our people had been compromised.

In the last Eight years, this government has done nothing to protect our retirees. Eloy Inos allowed the Retirement Fund to collapse. Eloy Inos did nothing to lower our utility bills. Eloy Inos engineered the separation of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation so that he would not have to find funding to support our hospital. Eloy Inos engineered the passage of the casino bill by forcing retirees to support it. Eloy Inos gave away the taxes for 40 years that casino license could have contributed to improving the CNMI. Eloy Inos cannot govern.

We need to stop this misery. We need a government that cares. We need real healthcare. We need affordable utilities. We need a government that protects our resources. We need the government to become responsive to the needs of our people. We need to stand up for a better and brighter future for our children. We need to prevent the Inos-Torres team from continuing malfeasance and incompetence in governing. We need to change.

Therefore, my supporters, my family and I are urging all residents and voters of the Commonwealth to stand up, go and vote to change our government. In particular, we are joining our most respected former governor Carlos Camacho’s call to all the people of the Commonwealth: Our future is dependent on this vote. Go out and vote Heinz-Ray for a bright future.

Ramon ‘Kumoi’ S. De Leon Guerrero

As Perdido, Saipan

Thieves, return what you stole from the man’amko!

We, *man’amko* people, were unpleasantly surprised to see our Man’amko Center burglarized. Some bad people broke into the Man’amko Center and into the dining hall at night. They took away

everything that they could get their hands on such as the TV set outside the hall and some the other items.

Putting aside the legal aspects of the crime, we just want to appeal to the thieves to please show some respect from the *man’amko*! Stealing from the *man’amko* is almost like stealing from you’re own parents and grandparents. Is your need so urgent that you would resort to stealing from your own family? Is it of interest to steal those old fixtures that were gifted to the *man’amko* after a long time of use in other places like Coral Ocean Point?

Come on, guys, be merciful (and be a little ashamed, too!) and return the stolen items! Have you heard about getting cursed?

Our sincere thanks to all those people and organizations that have donated what they could to the *man’amko*! We wish you even more prosperity and progress in your undertakings!

Teddy Guiao

Navy Hill, Saipan

Why not? Common sense

Thank you, Best Sunshine and IT, for the utility voucher of \$635.71.

After we accumulated and finish our voucher, are we still getting other vouchers for utility?

Common sense: Why not use the \$10 million for a long-term assistance especially to “kill” the LEAC because that’s what’s hurting the people of our Commonwealth. Seventy percent of our utility bill is LEAC while we only consume 30 percent.

Wake up, Taotao Marianas, because Best Sunshine is giving us assistance for today but what about tomorrow? Who is going to help us with our bills?






Best Sunshine is going to make money here in the CNMI for 40 long years tax free. If Best Sunshine is taxed yearly, that will be another revenue for the government bank and assistance to the people of CNMI.

Heinz and Ray think about the past, present and future of the Commonwealth. Think wise, not twice.

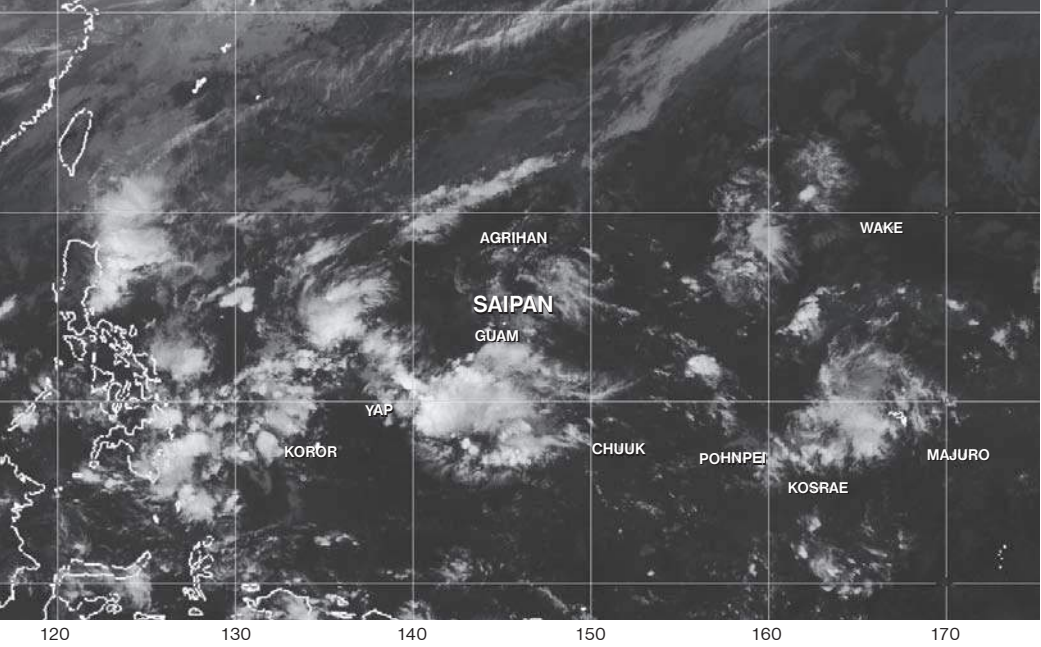
Ron Aguon

Dandan, Saipan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian				
TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from northeast of Minami Tori Shima through 25N155E to 24N152E then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 15N. Clouds and moderate rain are present along and up to 240 miles northwest of the front. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen along and up 240 miles northwest of the shear line. A near-equatorial trough meanders east-southeastward from south of Mindanao through a weak circulation centered southwest of Koror at 5N132E to end at EQ147E. Converging surface winds north of this trough are coupling with divergent upper-level winds to trigger scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from west of Koror to northwest of Yap within 120 miles of a line from 7N130E to 16N137E. A surface trough reaches northeastward from east of Yap at 8N143E to end northeast of the northern CNMI at 22N150E. An upper-level low is also centered east of Rota at 14N149E. Interaction between these features is creating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms just east of Yap within 60 miles of a line from 12N138E to 10N140E. Similar weather is also found south of Guam between 7N and 13N from 141E to 149E. Another upper-level low is centered southeast of Minami Tori Shima at 20N157E. Isolated thunderstorms associated with this system are occurring west of Wake Island within 60 miles of a line from 17N158E to 22N163E and also southwest of the island within 50 miles of 15N162E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Kosrae and northeast of Kwajalein within 80 miles of a line from 6N159E to 8N164E to 11N166E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia		
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼80
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼79
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼77
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼77
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼80

Around the Globe		
Auckland	Showers	▲65 ▼56
Beijing	Sunny	▲54 ▼28
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲74 ▼63
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼73
London	Cloudy	▲52 ▼44
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲75 ▼53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼75
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲71 ▼49
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼70
New York	Rain	▲50 ▼36
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲56 ▼42
Paris	Cloudy	▲52 ▼47
Pusan	Sunny	▲56 ▼38
Rome	Showers	▲64 ▼49
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲41 ▼30
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲65 ▼54
Seoul	Sunny	▲50 ▼30
Tokyo	Sunny	▲60 ▼44
Washington, DC	Rain	▲48 ▼33



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:28 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet
9:24 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
3:58 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
10:51 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:21 AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	1:36 AM	2:01 PM
Tuesday	2:23 AM	2:40 PM
Wednesday	3:12 AM	3:20 PM
Thursday	4:02 AM	4:02 PM
Friday	4:54 AM	4:48 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily	OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	5:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	1:30am	5:30am	4, 7	MU763A	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 5	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1,5 via GUM
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:50pm	Daily via ICN	UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM	OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	10:35pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA180/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
				UA180/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.								
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

IN TAISAGUE VS INOS

High court: Appropriations law is not unconstitutional

The NMI Supreme Court responded to three questions posed by the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands concerning the Retirement Fund settlement. The questions arose from a suit brought in federal court by Jesus Taisague, alleging the Commonwealth unconstitutionally impaired or diminished retiree-contract rights by entering into the Betty Johnson settlement. Because these claims presented novel questions about the NMI Constitution, the federal court sought guidance from the NMI Supreme Court.

Specifically, the federal court asked whether contract rights are impaired or diminished under the NMI Constitution when the Commonwealth: (1) does not pass a law creating a defense to breach; (2) does not pass a law depriving a retiree of the ability to sue for breach; and (3) does pass a law requiring the appropriation of funds before a judgment may be enforced.

The parties agreed that the first two questions did not

pose a constitutional violation. Thus, the high court did not address those questions because any answer would be an impermissible advisory opinion.

Turning to the third question, the high court explained that unconstitutional diminishment or impairment both require legislative action that detrimentally affects contract rights. But the law requiring the Legislature to appropriate funds before a judgment can be enforced against the Commonwealth does not detrimentally affect rights. Instead, the law merely codifies existing constitutional separations of power: the Legislature is the only branch that can allocate funds—the Judiciary, even in the absence of the statute at question, could not compel the Legislature to pay a judgment. Accordingly, the high court concluded that the law does not unconstitutionally impair or diminish a contract.

The Supreme Court's full opinion, 2014 MP 11, can be found at: <http://www.cnmilaw.org/supreme14.html>. (NMI Judiciary)

Compassionate Friends of Saipan to join worldwide candle lighting

The death of a child of any age from any cause is a shattering experience for a family; the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The holidays are often an especially difficult time.

A remembrance program to honor all loved ones will be held as part of The Compassionate Friends' 18th Annual Worldwide Candle Lighting Service. Tens of thousands of bereaved family members, and friends, around the globe will join together to light remembrance candles to honor the memories of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

On Saipan, the candle lighting service will be held on Dec. 14, 2014, a Sunday, starting at 6:30pm at the Garapan Central Park (in front of Gold's Gym).

Candles will be lit at 7pm local time, as we commemorate and honor the memory of all children gone too soon. A virtual 24-hour wave of light moves from time zone to time zone around the world. As candles go out in time zones before us, they will be lit on Saipan and Guam.

Each family group or attendee will have the opportunity to light and hold their own candle in remembrance. There will be a slideshow presentation, music, and readings of all loved one's names. If you would like your child's or sibling's photo

included in the slide show, e-mail one or two photos to nelsonkrum@msn.com before Dec. 7, 2014, (or call one of the numbers below if you need help scanning a photo).

Attendees are also welcome to bring a framed photo or small memento of their loved one for a display. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Please join us and bring your loved one's favorite dessert/finger food to be shared, along with memories, after the program.

Those unable to attend may participate by simply lighting a candle at home alone, or with friends and family and/or submit a memorial post about a loved one in the Remembrance Book that will be available during the event at TCF's national website at <http://www.compassionatefriends.org/home.aspx>.

Contact Jill Derickson (989-9821/jilld@pticom.com) or Donna Krum (783-0755/donna-krum@gmail.com) for further information.

The Compassionate Friends (www.compassionatefriends.org) is a national mutual assistance, self-help organization that offers friendship, understanding and support to family members who have experienced the death of a son, daughter, brother, sister, or grandchild, and helps others better assist grieving families. (PR)

CHALAN KANOA DIOCESE CELEBRATES 30th ANNIVERSARY

Bishop: People more faithful to the Church than ever before

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

The Diocese of Chalan Kanoa turned 30 years old nearly two weeks ago, Nov. 8, 2014. Pope Francis sent all the CNMI parishes plaques of recognition imparting his apostolic blessing to the pastor and priests, parish staff and entire parish community of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral.

"I invoke on all God's help and celestial comfort wishing that this blessing might be a stimulus and encouragement for continual growth in fidelity to the Lord and a reinforcement of the commitment to the building upon the living Temple founded on Christ," the Pope wrote.

Fr. Ryan Jimenez, Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, told *Saipan Tribune* that the diocese has established a total of 13 parishes on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota since its formation in December 1984.

"Anniversary celebration is always a time for thanksgiving. I thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed on our diocese for the past 30 years," he said. "I thank Bishop Camacho as our first bishop of the diocese. I am hoping and praying that soon we will have our new bishop. It has been very challenging without a bishop for the past four years."

Jimenez hopes that people from all walks of life feel welcome in the Church. "Our

community here in the CNMI is so diverse. Our parishioners come from various ethnic backgrounds. May we truly make everyone feel welcome in our churches."

Bishop emeritus Tomas Agumon Camacho was appointed as the first bishop of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa by Pope John Paul II in 1984.

Camacho said that today's churchgoers know their faith and the Church better than ever before.

"Before, people just had faith and tradition. Now, more and more people truly know the Catholic Church and what it is all about. I am very proud of that," he said.

As the Church marks its

30th anniversary, Camacho urges young males in the community to consider the priesthood as a vocation.

"We need more men to continue the work of Christ here in the CNMI," he added.

Through the growth of the people's faith, Mt. Carmel Church was upgraded to Mount Carmel Cathedral on Nov. 8, 1984, simultaneously establishing the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, separate from that of Guam.

The Church continues to stand as a living monument representing the work, dedication, and tireless efforts of the Chamorro and Carolinian people, who labored to construct it while rebuilding their lives not long after World War II.

We say **change starts with you**, because the power to shape our community with transparency and accountability rest with you—the voter. The Hofschneider-Yumul Team has over 25 years combined legislative experience and energy to rebuild our commonwealth with **you** in the lead. We are here to serve you, our islands, and our communities; change starts with **your vote for Heinz & Ray**.

Our actions and decisions will be guided by the same principle that serves as the basis for the Open Government Act, which states:

"The people of the Commonwealth do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."

We pledge that in a Hofschneider-Yumul administration government officials will conduct public affairs transparently to ensure fairness and public trust.

Transparency is important to maintain public trust as well as to promote commerce, both require openness and predictability. This is important as we move forward to grow and diversify the economy, spurring job creation for our resident population and improving the quality of life for everyone who calls these islands home.

**We pledge accountability and transparency
in a Hofschneider-Yumul administration.**

Thank You for your support!

www.heinzandray2014.com  Hofschneider Yumul  234-4479

heinz and ray
for governor and lt. governor

paid for by the committee to elect heinz s. hofschneider and ray n. yumul, juan (santiago) s. tenorio, treasurer.

Earlier MathCourt tilts to increase nat'l competitiveness

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI MathCourt's fourth to fifth grade division competed early this year, with over 200 students from private and public schools joining last Saturday's event at Hopwood Junior High School. According to MathCourt administrator Reo Arriola, this will give more time to train the state team for the na-

tional MathCourt competition.

Last June, the CNMI sent its first state team for the Mathleague.org national competition, according to Arriola. He said the team came away from the experience with "room for improvement."

By running the grades 4 to 5 competitions earlier, this will give the CNMI more time to pick its representatives for the national competition, he

said, and allow them to "train throughout" the months leading to the competition.

"Our goal is to have regionals next month for [grades] 6-12, and January to February for state and regional competitions for 4-5. This is the tentative schedule," he said.

Last Saturday, the sixth to eight grade division competed, with Arriola estimating about 500 students participating.

Along with the 200-plus elementary competitors, he called Saturday's meet a "big event."

Tinian also held a meet that same day, he said.

The results of the competition should be out over the weekend or today instead of the day of competition, according to Arriola, as they were short of some MathCourt administrators who were off-island.

As of yesterday afternoon, no results had been posted on the CNMI MathCourt website.

The regional competition for

grades 6 to 8 will be held on Dec. 13 next month. On Dec. 20, the regional competition will be held for grades 9 to 12, with the second meet for grades 4 to 5 held that same day, according to Arriola.

He thanked Hopwood for hosting Saturday's competition and encouraged all schools to register their students early to meet deadlines so competitions can "run smoothly as possible."

As has been the case in the last few years of competition, no ribbons or medal will be awarded

to students due to budget constraints, according to Arriola.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy birthday greetings go out to Coleen Jo "CJ"! Greetings come from Nina Mo Leslie AJ, RJ, Mom/Dad, Brothers John/To'jo and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Nov. 17, 18 and 20, from 10am to 4pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern

Mariana Islands. (PR)

Workshop on Form W-2CM

This is to advise all employers that the Division of Revenue and Taxation, Department of Finance will be conducting a workshop for the Annual Wage and Salary Statement, Form (W-2CM) for tax year 2014 and other 2014 yearend filing requirements. The workshop will be on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014. The first seminar will be from 8am to 11am and the second will be from 1pm to 4pm at the Multi-Purpose Center.

Businesses, employers and all payroll service companies are encouraged to attend. Please confirm your attendance by calling the Administrative Office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation at telephone number 664-1098 or fax at 664-1015. (DOF)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Nov. 20

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

CCA board meeting on Nov. 25

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2014, at 3:00pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board

meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

Customer Service Excellence training tomorrow

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Customer Service Excellence training tomorrow, Nov. 18, as part of its monthly seminars. Proceeds will benefit the Chamber's Scholarship Fund and other Chamber events. Tuesday's seminar offers training by two experts: Jim Arenovski (Island Training Solutions) and Josephine Mesta (Hyatt Regency). Cost is only \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for non-members. The seminar begins at 9am and ends at noon, and will be held in the Chamber conference room at the Marianas Business Plaza. Seating is limited to the first 30

confirmed attendees. For more information, contact the Chamber at 234-7150 or executive@saipanchamber.com. (SCC)

Worship schedule of Jehovah's Witnesses

Jehovah's Witnesses' regular meetings for worship in English are held on Sundays at 10am and 1pm at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses on Saipan at the end of the road next to Bali Fashion. Tagalog meetings are at 4pm on Sundays, Korean meetings are at 1pm on Sundays, and Chinese and ASL meetings are at 10am on Sundays. There are also meetings every week on Tinian and Rota. The public is always welcome and no collections are ever taken. For more information about Jehovah's Witnesses or to download a free assembly program visit www.jw.org or www.jw.org/en/jehovahs-witnesses/conventions/. (PR)

Christmas in the Marianas this December

The Marianas Visitors Authority, PDM Promoters, Inc. and other travel partners will celebrate "Christmas in the Marianas" on consecutive Saturdays in December, offering weekly holiday entertainment for visitors and residents, alike. The celebration will kick off on Dec. 6 with the annual schoolwide Christmas Tree Decoration Competition at Paseo de Marianas in downtown Garapan. The trees, decorated with recyclable material, will remain on display at the pedestrian mall on Saipan's main tourist district throughout the month. On Dec. 13, students will sing their hearts out at the annual Christmas Caroling Competition onstage at Paseo de Marianas. On Dec. 20, the Christmas Parade and Float and Costume Competition will be held. (MVA)



INVITATION FOR BIDS WATER TASK FORCE IFB 15-GOV-004



Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Construction of 0.5 Million Gallon Reservoir in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business License in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Conduct Construction Survey and Staking
- Construct Permanent and Temporary Erosion Control measures.
- Perform Earthwork and Site Utilities.
- Construction of 0.5 Million-Gallon Reservoir with Aluminum Dome Roof.
- Install Cathodic Protection.
- Install Control and Telemetry System.
- Modification of Existing Water Supply Pipes and other incidentals to complete the work per plans and specifications.
- Construction of Chain-Link Fence, six (6) feet and four (4) feet high.
- Installation of Chain-Link Personnel Access Gate and Chain-Link Vehicle Access Gate.
- Reconstruction of Asphalt Pavement.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after October 27, 2014 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on November 7, 2014, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to **Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager**, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on November 6, 2014.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3-301. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked **"IFB 15-GOV-004"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 pm local time November 26, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 pm local time November 26, 2014, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 26, 2014, and must be received no later than December 9, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, December 9, 2014. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on November 26, 2014.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/S/ Jude U. Hofschneider
Acting Governor and Contracting Officer

/S/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 15-GOV-010



Archeological Services For Water Task Force Lower Base Industrial Park Waterline Improvement Project

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified individuals or firms for Professional Services for Archeological Services for the Water Task Force for its Lower Base Industrial Park Waterline Improvement Project. This contract for professional services will be funded by grant funds from the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce with matching funds provided by Public Law 17-90.

The proposal package will be available on or after **October 27, 2014** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan or by request faxed to (670) 664-1515.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 PM, November 7, 2014** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number: (670) 664-2279.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Title 70, Subchapter 70.30.3). Preference is not available to local proposers in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Archeological Services", RFP 15-GOV-010**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 pm, November 25, 2014 (CNMI local time)**.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/S/ Jude U. Hofschneider
Acting Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

4 Guam soldiers selected to receive Secretary of Defense Award



MAJ. JOSEPHINE BLAS

Guam National Guard Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Rodney Retuyan, Specialist Steven Quinata, Sergeant Gregory Pecina, and Specialist Eric Gatmen pose with appreciation plaques presented by Mr. John B. Johns, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Maintenance and Policy Programs. The personnel support detachment was selected to receive a Secretary of Defense Award for performance while deployed with Task Force Guam last year.

Four soldiers assigned to the Guam National Guard's 1st-294th Infantry Regiment, have been selected to receive a Secretary of Defense Award based on their performance while deployed with Task Force Guam in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan last year.

According to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistic and Material Readiness, each year the Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards Program recognizes outstanding achievements by field-level units engaged in military equipment and weapon system maintenance within the Department of Defense.

Based on the support provided by the Guam soldiers, the Strategic Initiatives Teams in Afghanistan in fiscal year 2013 were assured mission success. The four soldiers who were part of a personnel security detachment that were singled out for this award are Staff Sgt. Rodney Retuyan, Sergeant Gregory Pecina, Specialist Steven Quinata and Specialist Eric Gatmen. Their award nomination came directly from John B. Johns, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Maintenance and Policy Programs.

The citation for the award

reads "The Logistics Advisory and Strategic Initiatives Teams, ISAF, HQ, are jointly charged with ensuring that the Afghan Ministry of Defense's multi-echelon sustainment system is operationally-driven, readiness-focused, and affordable. In 2013, the teams helped lead the development of long-term sustainment efforts for ground wheeled tactical vehicles. Those efforts included establishing preventive maintenance as a command priority by introducing standardized preventive maintenance checks and services to the Afghan National Army and formalized reporting practices to its leaders. The program was institutionalized through the distribution of handbooks that used clear imagery to allow technically and educationally inexperienced operators the ability to document complex deficiencies and identify needed repair parts. These efforts significantly impacted operational readiness and the accuracy of readiness reporting as a whole.

The key to the teams' success was the use of consistent readiness measures and the routine reporting of equipment status-the cornerstones of a readiness-driven logistics system. These successes

clearly justify the Logistics Advisory and Strategic Initiatives Teams, ISAF, HQ, being designated as the winner of the 2014 Secretary of De-



MAJ. JOSEPHINE BLAS

Guam National Guard Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Rodney Retuyan, Sergeant Gregory Pecina, Specialist Eric Gatmen and Specialist Steven Quinata, were selected to receive a Secretary of Defense Award for performance while deployed with Task Force Guam last year.

fense Award for Excellence in Maintenance Training, Advice, and Assistance of Foreign Security Forces".

"We are obviously very proud of the soldiers who continue to perform at high standards no matter where they are located and what the mis-

sion is. It is indeed an honor, but not a surprise, that service members from Guam were selected to receive such a prestigious award. Our Soldiers and Airmen continue to step up and make Guam and the National Guard proud," said Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino,

The Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard.

The soldiers are scheduled to receive their award at the Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards Banquet Ceremony in Birmingham, Alabama, next week. (*Guam National Guard*)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-15-2322

For: HAPPY CHILDREN IN PARADISE CAMPAIGN SAIPANDA BACKPACKS

Closing Date: **December 1, 2014** Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Perry P. Tenorio
Managing Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-15-2323

For: LOCAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEDIA SERVICES

Closing Date: **December 1, 2014** Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Perry P. Tenorio
Managing Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
**NORTHERN MARIANAS
HOUSING CORPORATION**
Tel. (670) 234-6866 / 234-9447 / 234-7689 / 234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board scheduled on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC's Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - September 25, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes
 - October 2, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Division Reports
 - b. HOME Loans for Review and Approval
 - c. Draft Annual Report (2013)
 - d. LIHTC - Return and Reallocation
 - e. Garapan Annex
 - f. Personnel Matters
 - g. Staff Training
- IV. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Mortgage Credit Division
 - i. HOME Policies and Procedures
 - ii. Settlement Proposal
- V. **LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**
- VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VII. **OTHER MATTERS**
- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board



JUDICIARY
Northern Mariana Islands



Request for Proposals 14-COURTS-02

Janitorial Services for the Guma Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewee, House of Justice

The Commonwealth Judicial Branch is soliciting sealed proposals for janitorial services for the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewee/House of Justice, Saipan, for a period of one (1) year.

Firms or individuals submitting proposals must have a valid CNMI business license and be in compliance with applicable local and federal laws and regulations, including minimum wage requirements.

Proposal procedures shall comply with CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Title 70, Subchapter 30.3).

The proposal package will be available on or after **November 24, 2014** at the office of the Budget and Finance Director, Guma Hustisia, Saipan, or by request faxed to (670) 236-9702 or emailed to juandiego.tenorio@justice.gov.mp.

A **mandatory** pre-proposal meeting and site visit will be held on **December 16, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.**, local time at the Guma Hustisia Conference Room. Any questions or inquiries shall be discussed at the meeting.

Sealed proposals must be marked **RFP14-COURTS-02** and submitted in one (1) original and three (3) copies to the Budget and Finance Director, Guma Hustisia, Saipan no later than **December 19, 2014, local time, 10:00 a.m.** Proposals must expressly state that the price offered is good for a one (1) year period. Firms or individuals submitting proposals from outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose to the Budget and Finance Director no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, December 19, 2014**. Notices of Intent may be faxed to (670) 236-9702 or emailed to juandiego.tenorio@justice.gov.mp. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and three (3) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **December 19, 2014**, AND the proposal must be received at the Office of the Budget and Finance Director no later than **December 26, 2014, close of business**.

The CNMI Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI Government. All proposals received shall become the property of the CNMI Government and will not be returned to the proposer.

/s/ Alexandro C. Castro
Chief Justice

/s/ Juan Diego V. Tenorio
Budget and Finance Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-15-2324

For: **SECURITY SERVICES AT
SELECTED TOURIST SITES**

Closing Date: **November 26, 2014** Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

Business

G-20 leaders reveal details of global growth plan

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)—Under pressure to jolt the stubbornly lethargic world economy back to life, leaders of G-20 nations on Sunday finalized a plan to boost global GDP by more than \$2 trillion over five years by investing in infrastructure and increasing trade. The fanfare, however, was overshadowed by tensions between Russian president Vladimir Putin and Western leaders.

The communique from the summit of Group of 20 wealthy and emerging economies also revealed that the plan for jump-starting growth includes the creation of a global infrastructure hub that would help match potential investors with projects.

They also aim to reduce the gap between male and female participation in the workforce by 25 percent by 2025.

Speaking at the end of the summit in Brisbane, Australia's Prime Minister Tony Abbott said countries will hold each other to account by monitoring implementation of their commitments to boost growth.

The International Monetary Fund and OECD will also play a role in monitoring progress and estimating the economic benefits.

The G-20 communique says if the \$2 trillion initiative is fully implemented, it would lift global GDP by 2.1 percent above expected levels by 2018 and create

millions of jobs.

Abbott said countries have agreed more than 800 measures to spur the global economy, which the IMF says is facing a "new mediocre."

"The G-20 has delivered real, practical outcomes and, because of the efforts that the G-20 has made, this year, culminating in the last 48 hours, people right around the world are going to be better off," Abbott said.

But with international agencies downgrading their global growth forecasts in recent months, the G-20—which represents around 85 percent of the global economy—faces an uphill struggle to implement its plan. Growth in China and Ja-



AP

In this photo released by G20 Australia and taken on Saturday Nov 15, 2014, U.S. President Barack Obama laughs as holds a koala while Prime Minister of Australia Tony Abbott looks on during a photo opportunity on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Brisbane, Australia.

pan has weakened and Europe is teetering on the brink of a recession.

Abbott said leaders unanimously agreed that expanding global trade would directly benefit countries and people around the world.

"Trade is a key driver of growth, perhaps the key driver of growth and we're focused on

domestic reforms to facilitate trade as well as the importance of a strong global trading system," Abbott said.

Despite Abbott's push to keep the summit focused on the economy, the meeting was overshadowed by tensions between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Western leaders over the escalating conflict between

Russia and Ukraine.

Australia, Japan and the U.S. issued a statement condemning Russia for its actions in Ukraine, and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper reacted to an offer of a handshake from Putin by responding, "I guess I'll shake your hand, but I have only one thing to say to you: You need to get out of Ukraine."



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan MO 96950-0514

Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.mmhc.gov.mp>



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

This is to inform all Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)-approved Contractors (including Tinian and Rota contractors) that we are currently updating our Approved Contractor Listing for calendar year 2015. In order for NMHC to extend your company's inclusion on our listing for another year, you must submit the documentations listed below. Those companies that are not on our list of approved contractors but wish to be included are likewise encouraged to submit the following:

1. Valid CNMI Business License
2. Current Financial Statements (certified by the principle executive officer and principle financial officer)
3. 2 Years Business Gross Revenue (BGR) Tax Returns
4. 2 Years Corporate Income Tax Returns (1120)
5. Clearance Letter from the Department of Labor
6. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue & Taxation Office
7. Workmen's Compensation Policy
8. Name of Insurance Company(ies) Currently Dealing With
9. A list of on-going/completed projects showing name of project, start and completion dates, and contract amounts
10. At least three (3) reference letters from owners of the completed projects
11. List of vendors and suppliers and at least three reference letters from them (CONSTRUCTION QUARRY, READY-MIX CEMENT & HARDWARE STORES)
12. Company background
13. Articles of Incorporation & Company By-Laws, if applicable
14. Annual Report (Registrar of Corporations)

FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS BY DECEMBER 12, 2014 WILL RESULT IN YOUR COMPANY'S ELIMINATION FROM OUR LIST OF "APPROVED CONTRACTORS."

NMHC encourages Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE) to participate in this Request for Qualifications and that they will be afforded full opportunity to participate and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, or disability status.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

/S/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
CORPORATE DIRECTOR



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-005

W-4, W-5 AND W-6 SEWER LIFT STATION ELIMINATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of W-4, W-5 and W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of construction of a new lift station to replace the existing W-5 lift station; installation of new gravity sewer mains, including bar screen and odor control, from existing lift stations W-4 and W-6 to new lift station W-5 such that these existing lift stations and force mains can be replaced by gravity sewers; installation of force main from the new W-5 lift station to the nearby gravity sewer main, thereby eliminating existing sewer lift stations; installation of Owner-Furnished Contractor-Installed (OFICI) products; construction of a new generator building and appurtenances; demolition of two existing generator buildings and appurtenances; demolition and restoration existing minor structures and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the sewer system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 350 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **November 13, 2014 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-15-005, W-4, W-5 and W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 2, 2014**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 14, 2014** to Manny B. Sablan, Manager, Procurement & Supply, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Junior Engineer, Water/Wastewater Division via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director,
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

MANNY B. SABLON
Manager, Procurement & Supply
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Nation

Surgeon with Ebola arrives in US for treatment

ACROSS THE NATION

Dad who sang to dying infant son thanks mourners

LOMA LINDA, Calif. (AP)—A grieving father who sang the Beatles' ballad "Blackbird" as his infant son clung to life told mourners Saturday that he was overwhelmed by the outpouring of prayers and support after a video of the tender moment gained widespread Internet attention. Chris Picco told mourners at a memorial service for his wife, Ashley, and their son, Lennon, that he didn't have enough words to express his gratitude to those who reached out to him, including strangers apparently touched by his story. "I could never articulate how much your support and your strength, and your prayers, and your emails and your Facebook messages and your text messages ... I don't even know how any of you got my number but there's been a lot of 'thank you,'" he said in an emotional address that drew laughter and tears. The service was webcast live, a fitting continuation to a week where the song and other images Picco posted of himself with his wife and their son drew an outpouring of grief and prayers to his Face-

book page, YouTube and other sites. Picco and his 30-year-old wife were anticipating their son's birth in February when she suddenly became ill. Picco said doctors delivered Lennon by emergency C-section after Ashley died in her sleep Saturday. The boy was born 16 weeks premature. He died Wednesday.

4 workers die after chemical leak at Texas plant

LA PORTE, Texas (AP)—Four workers were killed and one was injured Saturday during a hazardous chemical leak at a DuPont industrial plant in suburban Houston, company officials said. The chemical, methyl mercaptan, began leaking from a valve around 4 a.m. in a unit at the plant in La Porte, about 20 miles east of Houston. Plant officials said the release was contained by 6 a.m. Methyl mercaptan was used at the plant to create crop-protection products such as insecticides and fungicides, according to DuPont. The cause of the leak was not immediately known. Five employees were in the unit at the time of the incident and were exposed to the chemical, the company

said. Four died at the plant, and one was hospitalized.

US cities brace for protests off Ferguson decision

BOSTON (AP)—From Boston to Los Angeles, police departments are bracing for large demonstrations when a grand jury decides whether to indict a white police officer who killed an unarmed black teenager in Ferguson, Missouri. The St. Louis County grand jury, which has been meeting since Aug. 20, is expected to decide this month whether Officer Darren Wilson is charged with a crime for killing 18-year-old Michael Brown after ordering him and a friend to stop walking in the street on Aug. 9. The shooting has led to tension with police and a string of unruly protests there and brought worldwide attention to the formerly obscure St. Louis suburb, where more than half the population is black but few police officers are. For some cities, a decision in the racially charged case will, inevitably, reignite long-simmering debates over local police relations with minority communities.

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—A surgeon who contracted Ebola while working in Sierra Leone arrived in Nebraska Saturday for treatment at a biocontainment unit where two other people with the disease have been successfully treated.

Dr. Martin Salia, who was diagnosed with Ebola on Monday, landed at Eppley Airfield in Omaha on Saturday afternoon and was taken by ambulance to the Nebraska Medical Center.

The hospital said the medical crew that accompanied Salia, 44, from West Africa determined he was stable enough to fly, but that the team caring for him in Sierra Leone indicated he was critically ill and "possibly sicker than the first patients

successfully treated in the United States."

The disease has killed more than 5,000 people in West Africa, mostly in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Of the 10 people treated for the disease in the U.S., all but one has recovered.

Salia's ambulance to the hospital was accompanied by a single Nebraska State Patrol cruiser and a fire department vehicle—a subdued arrival in contrast to the August delivery of Dr. Rick Sacra, whose ambulance was flanked by numerous police cars, motorcycles and fire vehicles.

Salia has been working as a general surgeon at Kissy United Methodist Hospital in the Sierra Leone capital of Freetown.

It's not clear whether he was involved in the care of Ebola patients. Kissy is not an Ebola treatment unit, but Salia worked in at least three other facilities, United Methodist News said, citing health ministry sources.

Salia, a Sierra Leone citizen who lives in Maryland, first showed Ebola symptoms on Nov. 6 but tested negative for the virus. He eventually tested positive on Monday.

The U.S. State Department said it helped facilitate the transfer of Salia; the U.S. Embassy in Freetown said he paid for the expensive evacuation. The travel costs and care of other Ebola patients flown to the U.S. have been covered by the groups they worked for in West Africa.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 15-01

United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

ARCHITECT / PROJECT MANAGER

Location: SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)

Grade: CL-30, \$78,936 - \$97,657 starting pay depending on qualifications, plus 13.84% COLA
Limited Term (18 to 24 Months) Full-Time. Must be able to start by February 2, 2015.

Opening Date: Nov. 7, 2014 **CLOSING DATE: Dec. 2, 2014**

Position Overview:

The Architect/Project Manager provides technical advice and project management for new courthouse construction. Assists the court in planning, design, oversight, coordination, and problem solving for all aspects of construction. Complete position description is available upon request, or via Internet at <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>. This position includes full federal employment benefits, with paid leave and holidays, health insurance, life insurance and federal retirement benefits.

Minimum Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree from a U.S. Accredited Institution in architecture, interior design, engineering, planning, or similar disciplines. • Minimum of four years specialized experience in project management. • Thorough knowledge and understanding of concepts used by the various disciplines related to space project development, facility planning, architectural and interior design, and project management. • Thorough knowledge of and skill in using computer technology; excellent technical abilities in working with spreadsheets, databases, AutoCAD, and word processing. • Ability to read, analyze and interpret specifications, technical procedures, and governmental regulations. • Ability to effectively communicate by presenting and responding to input and questions from peers, court managers, consultants, contractors, and judges, both verbal and written.

Citizenship Requirement:

Applicants are required to be U.S. citizens or aliens who are authorized to work in the U.S.

Notice to Applicants:

Excepted service appointments are "at will" and may be terminated by either the court or the employee at any time for any reason. Appointment is contingent upon successful completion of a background investigation. Employees are subject to the Judicial Code of Conduct. Direct deposit of pay required.

Application Procedure:

Each applicant is required to submit a Cover Letter, Resume, and an AO-78 application form. AO-78 forms are on the Internet at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov> or may be picked up at the U.S. District Court. Deadline for receipt of applications at the Clerk of Court office in Saipan is Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014.

Deliver signed applications to:

Clerk of Court

United States District Court

for the Northern Mariana Islands

2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Garapan, Saipan

Or, email signed applications to:

HR@nmid.uscourts.gov

The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-15-003

Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from DECO certified firms to provide laboratory services for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP package may be obtained upon completion of registration and receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective Proposers must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **November 26, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-15-003, Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 12, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **November 28, 2014 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Heidi Yelin, CUC Laboratory Manager, via email heidi.yelin@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Manager, Procurement & Supply

Asia

15 killed as PH troops battle terrorists

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine troops on Friday battled Abu Sayyaf militants blamed for the kidnappings of several foreigners and Filipinos in the restive south, leaving at least five soldiers and 10 extremists dead, a military commander said.

At least 26 other soldiers and more than 30 Abu Sayyaf gunmen were wounded in the clashes that raged for five hours in Sulu province's mountainous Talipao town, army Col. Allan Arrojado said. The fighting eased by nightfall and government forces were pursuing about 300 militants who split into smaller groups and withdrew, he said.

He described it as "a major encounter," and added in a text message, "We are tracking their whereabouts."

A military officer involved in the fighting said another soldier was missing and the wounded troops would be airlifted to a military hospital. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters about the ongoing operation.

The militants were reportedly under Radulan Sahiron, a one-armed Abu Sayyaf commander long wanted by the U.S. and Philippine governments for alleged involvement in many terrorist attacks and kidnappings. It was not immediately clear if the militant,

now in his 70s, was directly involved in the fighting.

Abu Sayyaf forces under another commander, Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan, were also involved in the clash, military officials said.



Source: Reuters
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

President Benigno Aquino III has ordered the military to crack down on the militants after they freed two German tourists on Oct. 17, reportedly after a large ransom payment. It led to concerns that the money could be used by the resilient Abu Sayyaf to acquire more weapons.

A confidential government intelligence report seen by The Associated Press said Sawadjaan, who was behind the Germans' kidnappings, shared the ransom money with other Abu Sayyaf command-

ers, including Puruji Indama, a militant blamed for bombings and beheadings on nearby Basilan island. It said Indama planned to use the money and borrow some more from Sawadjaan to purchase a number of lightweight artillery anti-tank weapons that are popular among the militants.

An Abu Sayyaf spokesman, Moammar Askali, earlier claimed in a radio interview that his group received a 250 million-peso (\$5.6 million) ransom for the Germans' release, but the military says his claim needs to be validated.

The militants are holding several other hostages in Sulu's dense jungles, including two European birdwatchers who were seized more than two years ago and a Malaysian police officer who was recently abducted in Malaysia's Sabah state on Borneo Island, a few hours away by speedboat from Sulu.

The Abu Sayyaf, a loose grouping of about 400 mostly poor rural fighters, has turned to ransom kidnappings, extortion and other crimes to endure years of battle setbacks dealt by U.S. military-backed Philippine offensives.

The extremist group has had links to the al-Qaida network and is on a U.S. list of terrorist organizations for deadly bombings, kidnappings and beheadings.

Pope to comfort Haiyan victims in PH

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis will host a luncheon for Filipino survivors of the deadly Typhoon Haiyan during his Jan. 12-19 visit to Sri Lanka and the Philippines, his second visit to Asia in a year that confirms the region is a priority for his pontificate.

The Vatican on Friday released the itinerary for the pope's visit, which comes just five months after his August pilgrimage to South Korea.

Francis first flies to Colombo, where he will canonize Sri Lanka's first saint, the Rev. Giuseppe Baz, a 17th-century missionary credited with reviving

the Catholic faith in the country.

The pope arrives in Manila Jan. 15, and two days later flies to the central city of Tacloban, hardest hit by the Nov. 8, 2013, typhoon that left more than 7,300 people dead or missing. There he will celebrate Mass, host a luncheon and comfort survivors.

The visit is "very unexpected but is also very much welcome," Archbishop John Du of Palo near Tacloban said in a statement.

Francis' final public event is a Mass in Manila's Rizal Park on Jan. 18. The Philippines' presidential executive secretary, Paquito Ochoa, said the crowd

was expected to number "in the millions."

When St. John Paul II visited the Philippines in 1995, he drew 5 million people to Mass, a record that no pope has since matched. Francis just may, given his enormous popularity in a country that appreciates his attention to the poor.

Asia is widely considered the future of the Catholic Church, growing there while it withers in traditionally Christian Europe. Despite being a minority religion in every Asian nation except the Philippines, which is predominantly Roman Catholic, the church baptizes more Catholics in Asia every year than in Europe, according to Vatican statistics.

7.1 quake hits Indonesia, causes small tsunami

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A strong undersea earthquake hit eastern Indonesia on Saturday, triggering a small tsunami and some panic but no casualties or major damage.

The 7.1 quake occurred west of Halmahera island, which is about four hours' flight from the capital, Jakarta.

Indonesia's meteorological agency said a tsunami wave

of 9 centimeters (3.54 inches) washed onto the small island of Jailolo but caused no damage. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center later lifted its advisory for potential hazardous waves for coastal communities.

The quake was strongly felt in several cities in eastern Indonesia, sending many people to run from homes and other buildings, officials and residents said.

The world's largest archipelago, Indonesia is prone to earthquakes due to its location on the Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines in the Pacific Basin.

In 2004, a monster quake off the tip of Sumatra Island triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries. Most of the deaths were on Sumatra.

World

Obama accuses Putin of not living up to Ukraine accord

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)—President Barack Obama on Sunday bluntly accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of not living up to a cease-fire agreement in Ukraine, but offered no new plans for how the West might change his calculus.

Obama spoke shortly after huddling with European leaders to discuss the conflict and worsening security situation. On the potential for increasing sanctions on Russia, Obama said the U.S. and European allies are always looking at more penalties but "at this point the sanctions we have in place are biting plenty good."

"We're also very firm on the need to uphold core international principles," Obama said at a press conference to wrap up

a weeklong Asia-Pacific tour. "One of those principles is that you don't invade other countries or finance proxies and support them in ways that break up a country that has mechanisms for democratic elections."

Despite a cease-fire agreement between Ukraine and pro-Russian rebels signed in Minsk, Belarus, in September, fighting continues and key conditions haven't been met. Ukraine and the West have accused Russia of fueling the rebellion with a constant flow of troops and weapons, accusations Moscow has denied.

Obama said his interactions with Putin during summits he's attended on his tour were typical of their interactions—"businesslike and blunt." He

said Russia will continue to experience international isolation if Moscow doesn't take a different path. "It is not our preference to see Russia isolated the way it is," he said.

Putin departed Australia shortly before Obama and European leaders opened their talks. French President Francois Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and British Prime Minister David Cameron were among the European leaders attending the meeting, along with leaders from Italy and Spain and EU representatives.

The White House said the leaders in Sunday's meeting also were expected to discuss a proposed trade agreement between the U.S. and European Union.

Space agency: Now-silent lander does main tasks



AP

The combination photo of different images taken with Philae's CIVA camera system released by the European Space Agency ESA on Nov. 13, 2014 shows Rosetta's lander Philae as it is safely on the surface of Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.

BERLIN (AP)—The pioneering lander Philae completed its primary mission of exploring the comet's surface and returned plenty of data before depleted batteries forced it to go silent, the European Space Agency said Saturday.

"All of our instruments could be operated and now it's time to see what we got," ESA's blog quoted lander manager Stephan Ulamec as saying.

Since landing Wednesday on comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko some 311 million miles (500 million kilometers) away, the lander has performed a series of scientific tests and sent reams of data, including photos, back to Earth.

In addition, the lander was lifted on Friday by about 4 centimeters (1.5 inches) and rotated about 35 degrees in an effort to pull it out of a shadow so that solar panels could recharge the depleted batteries, ESA's blog said.

ESA spokesman Bernard

von Weyhe on Saturday confirmed the lander's difficult rotation operation. It's still unclear whether it succeeded in putting the solar panels out of the shade.

Even if the lander was rotated successfully and is able to recharge its batteries with sunlight, it may take weeks or months until it will send out new signals. Regular checks for signals will continue.

The agency did not schedule any media briefings on Saturday.

ESA's mission control center in Darmstadt, Germany, received the last signals from Philae on Saturday morning at 0036 GMT (7:36 p.m. EST Friday). Before the signal died, the lander returned all of its housekeeping data as well as scientific data of its experiments on the surface—which means it completed the measures as planned, the ESA blog said.

During a scheduled listening effort on Saturday at 1000GMT, ESA received no

signals from Philae, ESA's mission chief Paolo Ferri told The Associated Press.

"We don't know if the charge will ever be high enough to operate the lander again," Ferri had told The AP ahead of the 1000GMT (5 a.m. EST) listening time. "It is highly unlikely that we will establish any kind of communication any time soon."

Now it's up to ESA's team of scientists to evaluate the data and find out whether the experiments were successful—especially a complex operation Friday in which the lander was given commands to drill a 25-centimeter (10-inch) hole into the comet and pull out a sample for analysis.

"We know that all the movements of the operation were performed and all the data was sent down" to ESA, Ferri said Saturday. "However, at this point we do not even know if it really succeeded and if it (the drill) even touched the ground during the drilling operation."

Health & Fitness

10 things you can do right now to live longer

By **LESLIE BARKER**
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

If you want to have the longest, healthiest life possible, you should never have lit that first cigarette. Never tasted that first cheese fry. Never stepped foot inside a fast-food restaurant or driven somewhere you could have walked. Never turned up your nose at vegetables or let yourself get those nasty sunburns.

If you did, take heart. There's still plenty you can do to add years to your life.

"Most things I would say are common-sense things, things you were taught in first grade," says Dr. David Johnson, chair of the department of internal medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. "You don't have to go to medical school to figure out things are bad for you like smoking, being a sloth."

So listen up. These 10 ways are easy and have more significance than most of us realize. Truth to tell, Johnson says, "Collectively, even if they don't let you live longer, they allow you to live more healthily in a much more psycholog-



MCT

Be grateful for what your body can do, whether it allows you to walk for 10 minutes, swim a half-mile or even pick up the newspaper every morning.

ically satisfying life."

1 FLOSS

It's not just to remove spinach remnants from dinner. Flossing removes plaque, the bacterial film that forms along your gum line.

Get rid of bacteria, and you lessen your chances of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and some forms of cancer, says Dr. Larry Korenman of Loveable Smiles in Richardson.

"Oral bacteria can create proteins that are found in artery walls and in the bloodstream," he says, "causing blood to clot more easily. Infection in the mouth can cause its own small blood clots, which can enter the bloodstream."

Years added? More than six if you floss daily (which only 5 percent to 10 percent of Americans do), writes Dr. Michael Roizen in RealAge.

2 GET A COLONOSCOPY

"It's a great test," says Radhika Vayani, an internal medicine doctor of osteopathy at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth. "The 24-hour prep is the worst. You basically drink nasty stuff, and you have diarrhea. But you won't feel the procedure. If they see a polyp, they get rid of it right then and there. That could save you from having colon cancer in five years."

Years added? Lots. Nine out of 10 people whose colon cancer is discovered early will still be alive in 10 years, according to the American Cancer Society. Many will live a normal lifespan.

3 STOP EATING BEFORE YOU'RE FULL

Most Americans eat and eat "till we're so full we're about to be sick," says Vayani. "But it takes the body 15 to 20 minutes to say, 'You're full.'"

Years added? Being 100 pounds overweight can subtract a decade from your life, according to an Oxford University study. So it stands to reason that maintaining a healthy weight and thus reducing your risk for diabetes, heart disease and various other

unpleasantries would add at least some precious time to your life.

4 USE SUNSCREEN

In a Centers for Disease Control study, only 32 percent of adults reported usually applying sunscreen. Yet this year in the U.S., 3.5 million people will get skin cancer and 76,000 more will develop melanoma, says the American Cancer Society. Every hour, someone will die from that deadliest form.

Years added? Possibly 20. The CDC study reported that someone who died of melanoma between 2000 and 2006 died two decades prematurely. Although the sun doesn't cause all melanomas, it does cause most. So slather on more sunscreen than you think you need to, more often than you think necessary.

5 STOP SMOKING

Yes, despite years and years of evidence proving all the nasty stuff it causes, "tons of people smoke," Vayani says.

Years added? "If you quit at age 30, you can increase your life by 10 years," she says. Quit at 40? Add nine years. 50? Six years. 60? Three.

6 SLEEP

Not getting enough has been linked to memory problems, hearing problems, anger, high blood pressure, stroke, depression, vehicle accidents and obesity. A decades-long international study of 1.3 million people found "unequivocal evidence of the direct link" between lack of sleep and premature death, according to sleepbetter.org.

Years added? Hard to say, but if someone died in a car accident caused by sleep deprivation, for instance, that's probably several decades.

7 MOVE

"Exercise has been demonstrated over and over to be useful," Johnson says. "Truth is, any level is of value." Walking, he says "gets you outside, and some outside is good as long as you don't overdo it. The best way to get Vitamin D is sunshine."

Years added? At least three years. That's the number from a study reported in The Lancet for people who exercised even 15 minutes a day. Put another way, a story on WBUR-FM, Boston's public radio station, reported that every minute you exercise adds seven minutes to your life.

8 EAT PRODUCE

Benefits abound. Among them: Eating five or more servings per day—instead of a piddly three or fewer—reduces your risk of stroke by 26 percent, according to a study reported in Men's Health.

Years added? Webmd.com reports that Seventh-day Adventists, who typically follow a vegetarian diet, outlive those who don't by three to seven years.

9 CULTIVATE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Spending time with family and friends is "psychologically helpful," Johnson says, adding that it "isn't a cure-all; it won't counteract a McDonald's cheeseburger."

Vayani tells patients, "If you have people in your life who are negative, who are pulling you down, you have to get rid of that relationship. It affects you more than you realize."

Years added? Nothing specific, but "studies have shown that people with more friends and people in healthy relationships live longer," she says.

10 BE GRATEFUL

"We experience great things all day long that we fail to acknowledge," Johnson says. "I don't want to sound new wave-y, but our health is more than just physical health. I see dozens of people who have illnesses that would lay you or me low, but they seem totally happy. How in the Sam Hill can that be? They've chosen to look at the good instead of the challenges."

Years added? Maybe some, maybe none. "Even if I don't live a long time," Johnson says, "I'm happy with what I experience."

Personal Trainer

Stretch out tension at bedtime

A person who has trouble falling asleep may have gone to bed with tense muscles; some slow, gentle stretches will help relax them.

Wall roll-down

Start with back against wall
Roll forward; let arms hang; gently roll back up

Shoulder roll

Start with arms in front
Rolled towel

12 in. (30 cm)

Inhale as you lift over head; do not force; exhale and return to front

Lying side bend

Lie face-up on back with legs, arms in X-shape

Pull left arm and upper body toward right with right hand

Cross left ankle over right

Body makes crescent shape

Repeat on other side

Source: Prevention
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap

© 2014 MCT

Life & Style

Chileans design a 'bike that can't be stolen'

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—It's a bicyclist's dream: a bike that can't be stolen.

The "Yerka," a prototype designed by three young Chilean engineering students, is the latest entry in a recent trend of bikes that can be locked using some of their own parts. They include Brooklyn-based "Seat-ylock," which uses its saddle seat as a lock, and Seattle-based "Denny," which is locked with its detachable handlebars.

But the inventors of the Yerka have made a twist in that approach. The bike's lower frame opens up into two arms that are then connected to the seat post and locked to a post, so thieves would have to destroy a Yerka to get it unlocked, leaving it valueless.

"That's why our motto is 'a bike that gets stolen is no longer a bike.' What we have here is truly an unstealable bike," said Cristobal Cabello, who came up with the design during a college engineering class with childhood friends Andres Roi Eggers and Juan Jose Monsalve.

In Chile and elsewhere in Latin America, the spread of designated cycling lanes, storage racks and bike share programs are encouraging commuters to switch from cars to bikes, which are cheaper and environmentally friendly.

Cristobal Galban, who holds a doctorate in naval and environmental engineering and is director of the sustainability research center at Santiago's Andres Bello University, said a study by his team in 2013 found that "the use of bikes has doubled among Chileans" in five years.

"The main problem in Chile



In this Nov. 8, 2014 photo, a rider pedals on a bike trail next to the "Yerka Project," a prototype design for an "unstealable bike" in Santiago, Chile.

and elsewhere are the robberies, so the Yerka could help solve this," said Galban, whose own bike was recently stolen.

Tony Hadland, co-author with Hans-Erhard Lessing of "Bicycle Design: An Illustrated History," called the Chileans' design "very clever."

There have been relatively few attempts to incorporate anti-theft precautions into bicycle design, the British writer said.

Leaving aside the familiar shackle locks and chains with locks, most anti-theft accessories have been bolt-on devices, he said. The latter usually involve a piece that passes between the spokes to stop the wheel rotating, but they can still be easily picked open by a thief, he said.

"The most effective strategy commonly used in London today is to take the bike into the office with you," Hadland said.

James Gandolfini enters New Jersey Hall of Fame

ASBURY PARK, New Jersey (AP)—New Jersey inducted the late "Sopranos" star James Gandolfini into its Hall of Fame on Thursday.

Six cast members of the hit HBO drama were on hand as Gandolfini, who played mob boss Tony Soprano, was honored, as much for his love of the state as for his TV fame.

"Hey, J stands for Jersey and for Jimmy," said Vincent Pastore, who played mobster Salvatore "Big Pussy" Bonpensiero. "Jimmy should be remembered for his work, for his love of his family and for his compulsion to let people know how great New Jersey is. It was beyond perfect that he played a mob boss from New Jersey."

Gandolfini was a Westwood native. He graduated from Rutgers University and won three Emmy awards for his portrayal of the neurotic north Jersey mob boss who ran his business with

an iron fist but saw a shrink to deal with his anxieties. He died in Italy last year at age 51.

Aida Turturro, who played Tony's sister Janice, said Gandolfini had "the biggest, most sweetest heart ever. He was a true friend. I was his sister in many ways."

Tony Sirico, who played mobster Paulie Walnuts, said Gandolfini has already copped the ultimate accolade. Looking up toward the sky, Sirico said, "Jimmy's already in the Hall of Fame, whether you know it or not."

"He was a great guy with a big heart," Sirico said. "And he was all man. He was a good soul."

Gandolfini's widow, Deborah Lin, said he truly loved where he was from.

"He was very proud to be from New Jersey," she said. "His happiest moments were always in New Jersey."

And the only Jersey boss more powerful than Tony Soprano gave his blessing to Gandolfini.

"God bless you, Jimmy," said rocker Bruce Springsteen, a surprise presenter at the ceremony in the seaside town he helped put on the rock 'n' roll map.

Other inductees into the New Jersey Hall of Fame included women's rights crusader Elizabeth Cady Stanton, jazz great Dizzy Gillespie, chef Alice Waters, author Dorothy Parker, basketball great Patrick Ewing, The Shirelles, former Gov. Jim Florio, NFL executive Howard Katz, labor leader Peter McGuire, Holocaust survivor and educator Maud Dahme and NBC News anchor Brian Williams.

Past inductees to the Web-based hall include Springsteen, Jack Nicholson, Whitney Houston, Toni Morrison, Buzz Aldrin and Yogi Berra.

"The Brompton folding bicycle, now almost an icon of London, is so compact and so easy and reliable to fold that many cycling commuters take their Bromptons into the office."

"Other anti-theft strategies involve using a bike that looks so unattractive that nobody will

want to steal it," he said.

The young Chilean engineers said they began experimenting with their idea after Roi's bicycle was stolen. First they built a PVC model, then constructed a working prototype.

Now, while waiting for the patent to be approved and carry-

ing out more tests on the bike's resistance to thieves, the team plans to launch a crowd funding campaign seeking to raise funds. They're also looking for a partner who can invest \$300,000 needed to produce a first batch of 1,000 bikes that they hope will be sold by mid-2015.

Argentina judge: There's evidence against Bieber



In this Nov. 10, 2013 file photo, Canada's pop star Justin Bieber performs in concert during his Believe world tour in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—There's enough evidence against Justin Bieber to question him in a criminal case, an Argentine investigative judge said Friday.

Bieber is accused of sending bodyguards to attack a photographer outside a Buenos Aires nightclub during a 2013 South American tour, during where he apologized for defiling the Argentine flag on stage and got into trouble with police for allegedly spraying graffiti in Brazil and Colombia.

"The evidence from witnesses, footage and photos shows that he didn't want his pictures taken," Judge Facundo Cubas told The Associated Press in an interview. "That led his bodyguards to chase down after the photographers and it was followed by a beating."

Cubas summoned Bieber for questioning Thursday and asked Interpol to notify the singer that he has 60 days to appear. The judge says that he'll issue an international arrest order if Bieber fails to

comply.

Argentine photographer Diego Pesoa alleges he was beaten on Nov. 9, 2013, by Bieber's bodyguards outside the INK nightclub, where the singer and his entourage partied.

Under Argentine law, Bieber would face up anywhere from one month to six years in prison if he was convicted on a charge of causing injuries, the judge said.

Representatives for the Canadian-born singer could not be reached for comment.

Driver in Tracy Morgan crash seeks delay of case

TRENTON, New Jersey (AP)—The truck driver charged in a New Jersey highway crash that injured comedian-actor Tracy Morgan and killed another man filed a request Friday to delay a federal lawsuit while his criminal case proceeds in state court.

Kevin Roper's attorney filed a motion in federal court to put Morgan's lawsuit on hold pending the outcome of Roper's criminal case in New Jersey. Roper has pleaded not guilty to one count of death by auto and four counts of assault by auto in the June 7 crash.

Morgan suffered leg and rib injuries and spent several weeks in the hospital and in rehab. Three other passengers were injured, two seriously,

and fellow comedian James McNair was killed.

Morgan sued Wal-Mart, which owned the tractor-trailer Roper was driving, seeking punitive and compensatory damages. Roper is not named as a defendant in the suit, though allegations are made against him.

In Friday's filing, attorney David Glassman contended that allowing the suit to go forward in federal court would essentially force Roper to defend two actions at once. Continuing the federal case while the state case is pending would affect Roper's constitutional rights "because it would provide a de facto additional forum through which the criminal prosecution could obtain evidence for use in the

criminal trial against Roper," Glassman wrote.

An attorney representing Morgan in the lawsuit didn't return an email seeking comment.

Morgan, a former "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" star, was returning from a performance in Delaware in June when the Wal-Mart truck slammed into the back of his limo van.

A preliminary investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board said Roper was driving 65 mph (105 kph) in the 60 seconds before he slammed into the van. The speed limit on that stretch of the New Jersey Turnpike is 55 mph (90 kph) and was lowered to 45 mph (72 kph) that night because of construction.

Aniston ready for a 3rd ‘Horrible Bosses’ movie

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jennifer Aniston said she pushed her sex-crazed dentist character as far as she could in in “Horrible Bosses 2,” but she’s willing to try again in a third installment.

Asked if another sequel is in the works, the actress replied, “I don’t know,” she said. “It’s up to you all.”

“Horrible Bosses 2,” the follow-up to the 2011 hit, opens Nov. 24. It stars Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis and Charlie Day as amateur entrepreneurs who get caught up in a kidnapping scheme when their business deal with a conniving investor, played by Christoph Waltz, goes awry.

The actors improvised a lot during filming, Aniston said in a recent interview, until it

became a gross-out contest between the stars.

“This one went into a territory that I think just wasn’t even funny,” she said. “I couldn’t even make it dirty funny. It was just bad dirty.”

When it came to creating her character, Aniston said she told the filmmakers: “Just go as far as you can until someone actually gets sick from it.”

She feels like there’s more to do be done with Dr. Julia Harris.

“She’s hardly tapped out,” Aniston said. “We all were a bit sad when this movie came to an end because I, for one, felt it was too soon to end Julia’s party.”

As Aniston promotes her new comedy, she’s also getting potential awards attention for her

dramatic turn in “Cake,” which is open in limited release. The 45-year-old actress said she tries not to get caught up in awards-season buzz: “It’s flattering, it’s humbling, it’s exciting, whatever, to even be in that conversation, so to speak, so I think that’s just a win in itself.”

She’s not ruling out a return to TV, either, though she didn’t hint at any specific plans.

“I’ve never said never to coming back to television,” the “Friends” star said. “Television is pretty fantastic these days.”

In this Nov. 12, 2014 file photo, actress Jennifer Aniston poses for photographers at the World Premiere of “Horrible Bosses 2” at a central London cinema.



One Direction, Bono sing to raise Ebola funds

LONDON (AP)—Pop singers and musicians including One Direction, Bono and Ellie Goulding have joined forces to record a charity song to raise funds to ease Africa’s Ebola crisis.

The recording is a new ver-

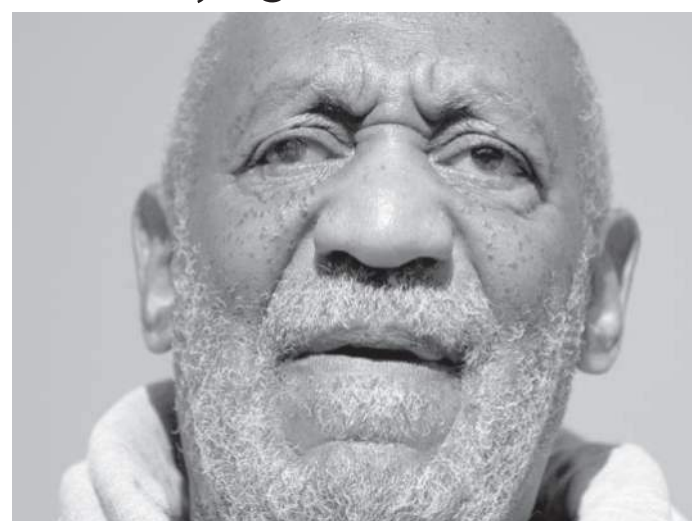
sion of the Band Aid charity single “Do They Know It’s Christmas?” which was first recorded 30 years ago to raise funds for famine relief in Ethiopia.

Organizer Bob Geldof said One Direction sang the opening

line of the new record, and other stars taking part in the London recording on Saturday included Rita Ora and Ed Sheeran.

The full lineup also features Coldplay’s Chris Martin, Sinéad O’Connor and Emeli Sande.

Bill Cosby’s guest shot with Letterman canceled



This Nov. 11, 2014, file photo shows entertainer and Navy veteran Bill Cosby speaking during a Veterans Day ceremony, at the The All Wars Memorial to Colored Soldiers and Sailors in Philadelphia.

NEW YORK (AP)—Bill Cosby’s upcoming appearance on CBS’ “Late Show with David Letterman” has been canceled amid a growing uproar over allegations that he sexually assaulted several women in past decades.

Cosby spokesman David Brokaw confirmed Friday night that Cosby would not appear next Wednesday as

previously scheduled. He did not say why.

“Late Show” representative Kimberly Izzo-Emmett said, “We can’t comment on the guest booking process.” She said Regis Philbin would be the replacement guest.

Another canceled booking, on “The Queen Latifah Show” on Oct. 30, was characterized by that show as a

postponement granted at Cosby’s request.

Barbara Bowman, one of Cosby’s accusers, has recently leveled allegations of sexual assault by the comic in interviews and in a Washington Post online column, writing that “Cosby won my trust as a 17-year-old aspiring actress in 1985, brainwashed me into viewing him as a father figure, and then assaulted me multiple times.”

The standup comedian Hannibal Buress last month brought heat on Cosby at a performance in Philadelphia. His routine, during which he assailed Cosby as “a rapist,” was captured on video and posted online, gaining wide exposure.

The 77-year-old Cosby, who was never criminally charged in any of the cases, settled a civil suit in 2006 with another woman over an alleged incident two years before.

Cosby has declined to comment on the recent resurgence of allegations.

Mbatha-Raw says ‘Beyond’ film shows power of self

LOS ANGELES (AP)—British actress Gugu Mbatha-Raw has had a busy 2014.

Earlier this year, she starred in “Belle,” based on a true story about a mixed-race woman who was raised in British aristocracy in the 18th century. Now, the 31-year-old actress has transformed herself into a hot new pop star in “Beyond the Lights,” which was released on Friday.



Mbatha-Raw

Mbatha-Raw studied the likes of Beyoncé, Rihanna and Katy Perry to transform into her character Noni for the indie drama, directed by Gina Price-Bythewood. The story

exposes the dark aspects of fame and pressures of oversexualization encountered by some female artists.

The film underscores the importance of having a strong

sense of self-worth, Mbatha-Raw says.

“If you’re trading your self-worth for an image of sexuality and something that you think is going to be commercial and sell, I just don’t think those are very healthy messages for young women today and I think that people often believe the fantasy,” she said in a recent interview.

Mbatha-Raw says she doesn’t feel the same pressures as an actress because you get to play different characters.

Prince William, Kate to visit New York next month

LONDON (AP)—British royal officials say Prince William and his wife, Kate, are traveling to the United States next month on a trip that includes visits to the National September 11 Memorial and an NBA basketball game.

The visit, from Dec. 7 to Dec.

9, will be based in New York, although William will travel to Washington, D.C., on his own on Dec. 8 to attend a conference against the trade in illegal wildlife parts.

The Duchess of Cambridge will visit a child development center, accompanied by New

York City’s first lady Chirlane McCray.

The royal couple will both visit the Sept. 11 memorial, attend the NBA game and tour a youth organization together. The trip wraps up with a gala dinner at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

New mother’s baby trumps mother-in-law’s wedding

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are pregnant with our first child. We are beyond excited and can’t wait for our little one to get here. Our problem: My mother-in-law is getting married two weeks after our baby is supposed to arrive, and she’s expecting all of us to go.

While I’m happy she has found someone she wants to spend her life with, I will not be there and neither will our child. I have told my husband this and explained my concerns, but I will support him if he decides to go since it’s his mother.

How can I turn her down in a polite way so it doesn’t sound like I’m a horrible daughter-in-law?

FIRST-TIME MAMA

DEAR FIRST-TIME MAMA: Unless a woman is having a C-section, babies don’t always arrive on the expected due date. Sometimes they can be a week late—or more. If you feel you need time to rest, recuperate and get your child on a regular nursing schedule, tell that to your mother-in-law.

As a new mother you are going to have to quickly learn to prioritize, and your child’s well-being and your health must come first. Expect her to be disappointed, but make clear that you love her and wish her a lifetime of happiness, but you will be unable to attend.

DEAR ABBY: Is it OK for an older woman to wear fancy, colorful tights? My wife is 5 feet tall and weighs 110. She’s in good health and works out at the gym regularly. She wears her tights there, or when she’s working in the garden or at the market. She dresses conservatively for work and church.

I overheard some of the local ladies say she shouldn’t be wearing leopard tights “at her age.” I’m afraid my wife will overhear it one of these days and be hurt. What is your opinion? She still looks wonderful to me.

MARRIED TO A HOTTIE

DEAR MARRIED: As an adult—and in good shape—your wife should wear anything that pleases her, including leopard tights if she wishes. It appears the local women are more jealous kitties than ladies. “Nice” ladies don’t make catty comments behind someone’s back.

DEAR ABBY: On Oct. 11 you printed my letter about feeling like an overlooked middle child. In the comments on your website was an outpouring of support and friendly tips. I am happy to say I am now involved in extracurricular activities. I’m much happier, and would like to thank all your readers who took the time to give me so much support.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



FORMERLY NOWHERE IN INDIANA

DEAR FORMERLY NOWHERE: Thank you for letting us know that you’re happier and doing better. Dear Abby readers are the most caring and generous people in the world. I’m glad their comments in response to your letter gave you the boost you needed to get through a difficult time.

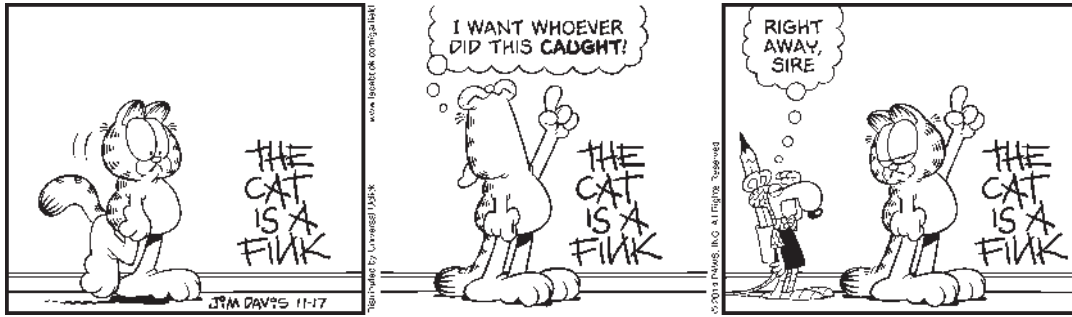
Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: “Abby’s Favorite Recipes” and “More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield® By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 34 Korean War TV series 35 Indigent 36 Jousting need 37 African country or lake 40 Enjoyment 41 Way out 42 Sci-fi franchise 47 Netting 48 Stand 49 Catch sight of 50 Fa-la link 51 Vacationing

DOWN 1 Type measures direction 2 Perched 3 — Khan component 4 Open out, as a carpet 5 Hebrew month 6 Selfie, e.g. 7 Get in on the action 8 Crafty 9 Rip 10 Yin counterpart 11 Vortex 13 Last write-up 19 Dweeb 20 Hot tub

21 Disarray 22 Sunrise 23 Flight component 25 Helpless performers? 26 Arabian Sea gulf 27 Uncategorized (Abbr.) 29 Forehead 31 That girl 33 Indifference 34 Om, for example 36 Enticement 37 Viral video, e.g. 38 Choppers 39 Speech impediment 40 Drop 43 Also 44 Uncooked 45 Greek vowel 46 Crucial

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 11-17

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rachel McAdams, 36; Dylan Walsh, 51; Danny DeVito, 70; Martin Scorsese, 72.

Happy Birthday: Make this your year to excel. Focus on details and finishing what you start. Refuse to be tempted or lured into excess and indulgence, and the rest will be history. The limitations and frustrations of the past will lift, and the chance to accomplish your dreams, hopes and wishes will be yours. Move into the fast lane. Your numbers are 2, 9, 13, 25, 32, 45, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Examine what's going on around you. Pay attention to detail as well as to what your peers are up to. Don't argue over trivial matters. Make the necessary changes and keep moving forward. Don't be disillusioned by what others do or say.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't take chances, live in the past or procrastinate. You have to stay tuned in to the people and things that are important to you now if you want to stay on top of your personal situation. Don't let stubbornness get in your way.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't trust anyone with your personal or financial affairs. You will be disappointed by the motives behind someone's generosity. Get involved in a cause you believe in and explore new friendships. Don't jeopardize your position over a personal matter.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Participate in an event that will help you understand different cultures. Exploring will help take your mind off of personal situations that

need time to settle. Heed your insight to determine how to use your time effectively.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Watch over your investments closely. Look for solutions that will help you deal with a precarious situation. Make changes to your current lifestyle that will help you reduce your overhead. Consider a residential move or updating your skills to raise your income.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be extremely careful when handling relationship issues. Any show of instability will end up costing you. Put your heart on the line and express how you feel and what you want to see happen. Don't just talk; take action.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Can you keep a secret? It will be vital for you not to leak information. A change in your status, your reputation or a partnership will depend on how you handle discussions with people who can influence your future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Consider what everyone around you is doing. Making an impulsive move will be out of character, but an effective way to deal with competition. Form an alliance with someone insightful and practical. Don't let your personal life interfere with your work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't be fooled by what others say. Go to the source and get your facts straight. Knowledge will make the difference when facing a decision. A change at home can bring benefits as long as you don't go overboard.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take the road less traveled and you will take everyone by surprise. Speak up and take control. Once you show your strengths, you will find it easy to get the backing and support you need to get ahead professionally and financially.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let confusion set in due to conversations with generous but uninformed individuals. Make modifications based on what works for you, not because you want to please everyone around you. A change will bring good fortune.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Offer help, and you will discover valuable information that's instrumental to your advancement. Contracts and alliances can be formed and put into play. Don't let an emotional matter get in the way of your professional or financial progress.

Birthday Baby: You are intense, creative and imaginative. You are curious but practical.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

7			8					3
	2		6		3		5	
1			2		4		6	
	1	6				5	4	
4				5				9
	3	2				6	7	
6			7		9			2
	9		4		5		3	
3				1				5

Difficulty Level ★ 11/17

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

3	4	9	2	7	8	1	5	6
7	2	8	5	1	6	4	9	3
6	5	1	9	3	4	2	8	7
4	9	6	7	2	3	5	1	8
5	8	3	4	6	1	7	2	9
2	1	7	8	5	9	6	3	4
1	7	4	3	9	5	8	6	2
9	6	2	1	8	7	3	4	5
8	3	5	6	4	2	9	7	1

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

KING TUT'S WORLD Solution: 8 letters

A G N I K S M E N K H K A R E
L N U E G Y E Q A Y I K E L Y
A I K Y P L U Y R G B R I E I
C P L H U E U O O M U N N T T
I P O R E Y T D O T U O W U D
G I B N T S S T C M R O H T I
O H M E I D E E A H H S O A S
L S Y H L M T N T S E E A N C
O R S O P I E C P A I B R K O
E O G L H S E M A P R A H V
A W E C E I A F P R A H H A E
H S R H T L A E W I A T P M R
C A K H E N A T E N R T E U I
R N E F E R T I T I N E A N E
A M E N H O T E P O R I A C S

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Akhenaten, Amenhotep, Ankhnesenamun, Ankhnesenpaaten, Archaeological, Architecture, Belief, Cairo, Cataract, Discoveries, Empire, Euphrates, Gods, Gold, Heir, History, King, Kiya, Nefertiti, Nile, Pharaoh, Queen, Rule, Show, Smenkhkare, Symbol, Temples, Thebes, Throne, Tiye, Tomb, Tutankhamun, Wealth, Worshipping, Yuya, Yuyu

Last Friday's Answer: Trace

Purchase WONDERWORD books in time for the holidays! Visit wonderword.universalluclick.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(4) Beautician, (5) Cook, (5) Waitress

All applicants should have a minimum 3 years work related experience. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours. Please mail resume to PMB 373 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email newsc426@gmail.com. New Star International Corporation dba Mura Khiban Restaurant, Asahi Beauty Salon and Asahi Massage Therapy.

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Rong Hua Corporation dba: Da Ke Yi Restaurant

(1) Waitress

3 years experience - Salary \$6.05
Speaking Japanese, Chinese, and English preferred.

Interested applicants may call 233-4825 or mail resume to PMB 698 Box 10003 Saipan, MP 96950

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(1) Construction Superintendent
\$2,000.00/month

Must be a college graduate with a minimum of 2-5 years' experience as a Construction Superintendent.

Job Opening will close on November 18, 2014.

Interested applicants may apply at GPPC, Inc. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of Police Clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required.

GPPC, Inc. is an
Equal Opportunity Employer

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Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
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REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

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2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

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Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
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Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM,
Plaintiff,

vs.

**ABRAHAM E. TAISACAN and
LYDIA O. TAISACAN,**
Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 27th day of December, 2013, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 10th day of December, 2014 at 10 a.m., at the Bank of Guam, District II, Songsong Village, Rota, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 001 R 22, (formerly known as Lot 10, Block 19), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R00, the original of which was registered on November 12, 1971 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registration, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

- a) to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
- b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
- c) to reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.

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DATED this 12th day of September, 2014.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM,
Plaintiff,

-v-

BERNARD P. KILELEMAN,
Defendant.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to the Order Granting Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on September 4, 2014, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the Order, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 25th day of November, 2014 at 10:00am., at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said order, to wit:

Lot No. 011 G 1290, located in Kagman III, Phase IV, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 784 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 24 dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 96-2567, dated October 10, 1996.

Terms and Condition of Sale

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

- a) to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
- b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
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DATED this 13th day of October 2014.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

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Japan tops MLB All-Stars with no-hitter



TOKYO
(AP) —
Takahiro
Norimoto

combined with three relievers on a no-hitter, and Japan beat the Major League Baseball All-Stars 4-0 on Saturday in a game in which Seattle Mariners second baseman Robinson Cano broke his toe.

Norimoto, who went 14-10 with a 3.02 ERA this season for

the Rakuten Eagles, struck out six over five perfect innings.

Cano was hit by a pitch on the right foot in the seventh inning. The Mariners confirmed later Saturday that X-rays revealed a fracture in his small toe and he is expected to miss 3-4 weeks.

Hayato Sakamoto and Sho Nakata each hit a two-run homer as Japan took a 3-0 lead in the five-game series.

"It's too good to be true,"

Norimoto said. "I wanted to see how my pitches would work against MLB hitters. The fact that my teammate (Motohiro) Shima was catching made me feel at ease and I was able to perform as usual. The atmosphere at the park was really nice. It was the best outing of my career."

Yuki Nishi took over from Norimoto and struck out four with one walk over two innings.

Kazuhisa Makita struck out two in the eighth and Yuji Nishino retired the side in the ninth.

"The story tonight was in the hit column with a zero on it," MLB manager John Farrell said. "Norimoto was outstanding. He was very efficient. He has a powerful fastball and very good late action to go with his split, his slider and cutter."

Sakamoto connected off MLB starter Jeremy Guthrie

in the second inning, and Nakata made it 4-0 in the third with a blast off Guthrie over the left field wall.

Guthrie took the loss after giving up four runs on five hits in five innings.

The MLB All-Stars won an exhibition game 8-7 before the start of the series but have scored just four runs over the

first three games.

Chris Capuano will pitch Game 4 while Shintaro Fujinami will take the mound for Japan.

"We will visit with our coaching staff and try to come up with a lineup that has the ability to go up against Fujinami, who we know is a very good pitcher," Farrell said.

League, union in conflict on Peterson case



MINNEAPOLIS
(AP)—Potential discipline for Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian

Peterson under the NFL personal conduct policy has become more complicated and contentious.

The league said Saturday that Peterson declined to meet about his case Friday, so it proceeded with a review without him. The NFL also said it was unwilling to postpone the hearing beyond this week, citing the NFL Players Association's stated desire to resolve the situation promptly.

Peterson has been on paid leave for two months. He pleaded no contest Nov. 4 to misdemeanor reckless assault in Texas for hitting his 4-year-old son with a wooden switch. The NFLPA has filed an expedited grievance against the NFL to return Peterson to the roster until punishment is determined. That issue will be moderated Monday by an arbitrator.

So while the union has been accusing the league of dragging out the process, the league has fired back.

The NFL said it scheduled the Friday hearing three days in advance for the purpose of reviewing Peterson's case. According to the NFL, it was informed by the union Thursday "without meaningful reason" that it was unavailable to meet.

"We had hoped that Adrian would take advantage of his opportunity to be heard and present whatever information he believes should be considered before a decision on discipline, counseling and services is made," league spokesman Brian McCarthy said. "Because he and the NFLPA elected not to do so, we will have to address this based on the information currently available to us."

The NFL said the union declined alternative proposals for this week. The league also said it has not received "more than cursory materials" in response to requests for information on Peterson's case.

"The League office seems more focused on creating an arbitrary disciplinary process for Adrian instead of honoring a signed agreement to remove him from the Commissioner's list," NFLPA spokesman George Atallah said. "They are simply making stuff up as they go along. They should commit

their efforts to meeting us at the table to collectively bargain a new personal conduct policy."

Peterson's case was ordered sealed by the judge after the plea deal was reached, so the league will not have any more access to the court documents than the general public. The Vikings have seven games left, and the NFL's upgraded penalty for players involved in domestic violence calls for a six-game suspension.

That policy was announced by Commissioner Roger Goodell in August. The injuries to Peterson's son occurred in May.

The grievance hearing Monday will be handled by Shyam Das, an arbiter used by the NFL and NFLPA under the collective bargaining agreement reached in 2011. Lawyers representing both sides will discuss the matter via conference call.

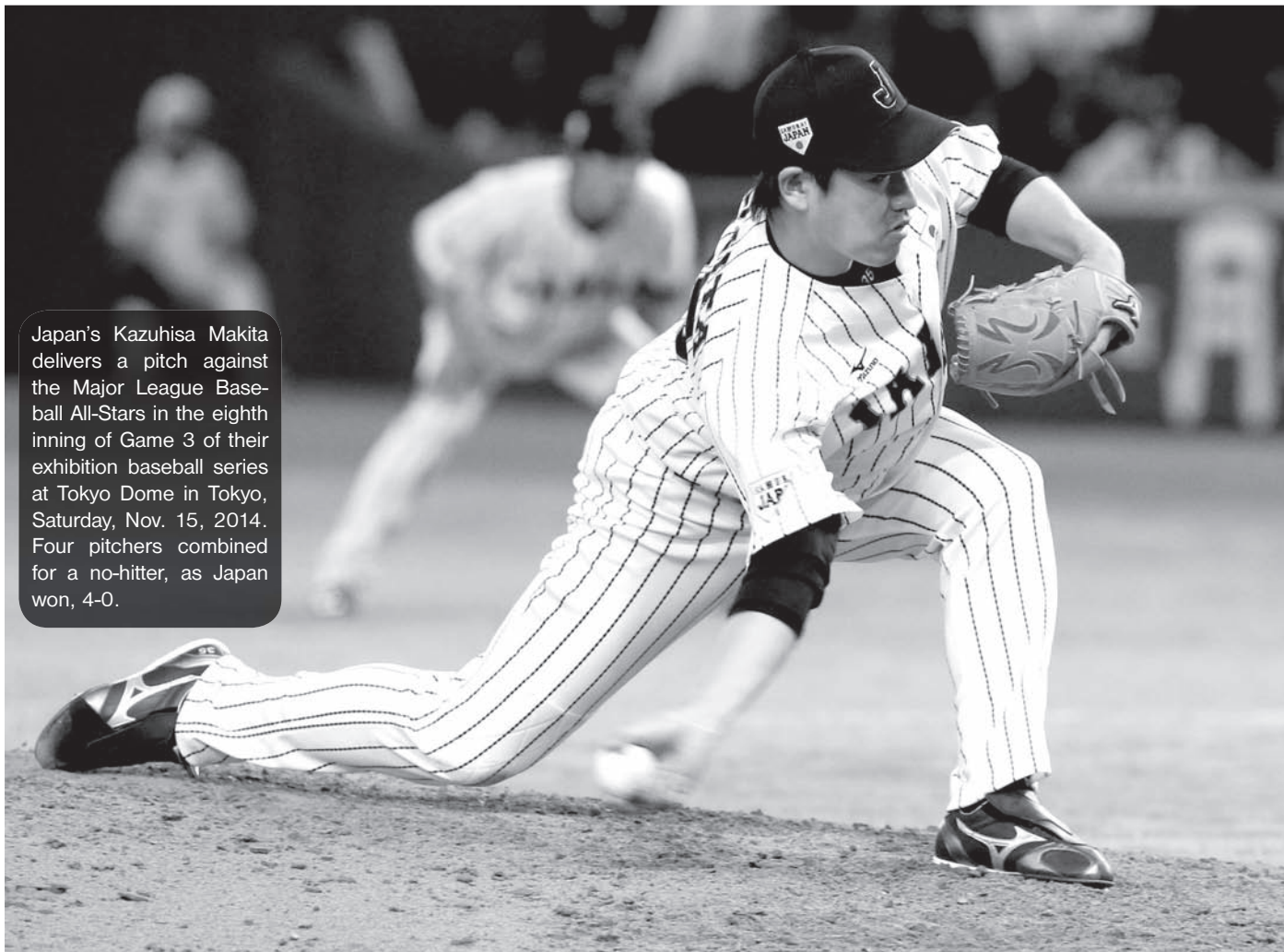
Peterson was indicted Sept. 12. He was held out of Minnesota's game on Sept. 14 and placed on the commissioner's exempt list Sept. 16. After his plea freed him from the court system, assuming fulfillment of probation terms, the union demanded in a letter to the league that Peterson be allowed to rejoin the Vikings immediately until any discipline had been determined. But the NFL responded by declaring Peterson would remain on paid leave until the process is completed.

Meanwhile, New York Jets coach Rex Ryan has been fined \$100,000 for his postgame use of profanity that was picked up on video last Sunday.

After the Jets beat the Steelers 20-13, Ryan could be seen yelling agitatedly while walking onto the field to meet Steelers coach Mike Tomlin. Ryan has been fined twice in the past for public obscenities and was considered a repeat offender by the league.

Ryan was upset when Steelers safety Michael Mitchell leaped over the offensive line while the Jets were doing a kneel-down at the end of the game. Afterward, Ryan called it "bush league."

His previous fines were \$50,000 by the Jets in 2010 after he made an obscene gesture at a fan at an MMA fight, and \$75,000 by the NFL the next year for cursing at a fan at halftime.



Japan's Kazuhisa Makita delivers a pitch against the Major League Baseball All-Stars in the eighth inning of Game 3 of their exhibition baseball series at Tokyo Dome in Tokyo, Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014. Four pitchers combined for a no-hitter, as Japan won, 4-0.

S I D E B A R

Burnett back with Pirates for \$8.5M, 1-year deal

PITTSBURGH (AP)—A.J. Burnett believes his right arm has one - and only one - season left in it. The pitcher has no intentions of letting it go to waste.

Spurning a chance to remain with floundering Philadelphia, Burnett agree to an \$8.5 million, one-year deal with the Pittsburgh Pirates on Friday.

"This is where I belong," Burnett said. "There are certain feelings you get, certain gut things and this was a no-brainer for me."

Burnett went 26-21 for the Pirates in 2012-13, helping the franchise return to the post-season in 2013 following a 21-year drought. He'll receive \$4.25 million less from the Pirates than he would have gotten from the Phillies under the player option he declined.

"I didn't want to make it about money," Burnett said. "I wanted to make it an opportunity if I can come back and make the team better."

Pittsburgh attempted to resign Burnett last winter but he opted for a more lucrative deal with the Phillies.

It didn't quite work out.

Dealing with a hernia all season, Burnett went 8-18 with a 4.59 ERA in 34 starts. His 18 losses led the majors. He underwent surgery on Oct. 3 to repair the hernia and said he'll be ready when the Pirates report for spring training in February.

"I'm feeling good," Burnett said. "I had relief the day I got out of that operation."

Good enough to return for a 17th season. He'll do it in Pittsburgh instead of Philadelphia after he and the Phillies declined a \$15 million mutual option, and the pitcher then turned down his player option. Shortly after the World Series ended, Burnett reached out to Pirates general manager Neal Huntington to see if there was any interest.

"I told him I'll pitch for you, I want to be in a place where I was really, really happy," Burnett said.

Burnett provided the Pirates with a jolt of legitimacy when he arrived in a trade from the New York Yankees before the 2012 season, though his final

moments with the club were not his best. The Pirates started rookie Gerrit Cole over Burnett in Game 5 of the 2013 NL Division Series against St. Louis after the Cardinals roughed Burnett up in Game 1 of the series, and Burnett fumed.

He spoke with manager Clint Hurdle for more than 30 minutes before he signed to clear the air and insisted any lingering animosity is gone.

"If I had to do it all over again, I would handle it a little bit differently with (Hurdle)," Burnett said.

Pittsburgh is searching for insurance in the starting rotation with Francisco Liriano and Edinson Volquez while also trying to bring back catcher Russell Martin. Huntington insists Burnett's return won't keep the Pirates from being as aggressive as they can be in the market.

"We still have interest in adding to our club," Huntington said. "A.J. gives us another quality starter. That doesn't stop us from continuing to look to add other guys."

Burnett served as a mentor

to several members of Pittsburgh's young pitching staff, including Cole and left-hander Jeff Locke, who became an unlikely All-Star in 2013 thanks in large part to Burnett's guidance.

"Welcome back Batman," Locke tweeted shortly after the deal was announced.

Despite Burnett's mediocre numbers last season, Huntington is confident Burnett can regain the form she showed during his previous stint in Pittsburgh, where he worked with pitching coach Ray Searage to revitalize his career.

"We do feel the hernia hindered him some," Huntington said. "We do believe there were other factors, some indicators that we still think there's a good pitcher here."

One intent to help Pittsburgh, which fell to eventual World Series champion San Francisco in the wild card last month, get back to the World Series for the first time since 1979.

"This is where I want to finish my career," Burnett said. "I want to win a ring and I want to win a ring in Pittsburgh."

Cavs make first 11 3-pointers, beat Hawks



CLEVELAND (AP)—A night after Cleveland needed a big comeback, LeBron James wanted a fast start.

It ended up being a record-setting one.

James scored 32 points and the Cavaliers made their first 11 3-point attempts, including nine in the first quarter, to rout the Atlanta Hawks 127-94 on Saturday.

The Cavaliers became the first team in NBA history to go 9 for 9 or better from behind the arc in a quarter, according to information provided to the team by the Elias Sports Bureau.

James, who scored a season-high 41 points Friday in Boston, hit three 3-pointers in the period and scored 11 points in the opening 3:34.

“Coming off a back-to-back I didn’t want us to have a slow start,” James said. “I feel like the guys feed off my energy and I wanted to go out and be aggressive and see where it takes us. It got us to a huge lead.”

The Cavaliers, who have won four straight, scored 41 points in first quarter. James, who didn’t play in the fourth, was 13 of 20 from the field. Kyrie Irving added 20 points.

The Cavaliers set a team record by going 19 for 31 on 3s. The 19 makes were a league season high.

“Guys were hitting shots and we were feeding them,” Irving said. “The ball was moving. Guys were hitting each other in their shooting pockets.”

Paul Millsap scored 16 points for the Hawks, whose four-game winning streak was snapped. Millsap scored the game’s first basket, but James’ 3-pointer gave Cleveland the lead for good as the Cavaliers hit 14 of 18 from the field in the quarter.

“We had a tough game last night, a very emotional game for us,” James said. “It took a lot of energy from us, but we had a lot more tonight.”

Cleveland scored 38 points in the final period Friday to erase a 19-point deficit and continued its blistering offense against the Hawks.

Already leading 49-27 early in the second quarter, the Cavaliers scored the next 13 points to take their largest lead of the half. The margin reached 120-77 with 6:20 left.

“It was just a rough night,” said Atlanta guard Jeff Teague said. “We’ve got to just throw this one away. When they started making shots, I thought we put our heads down.”

James added six rebounds and seven assists. He brought the crowd to its feet when he blocked Kent Bazemore’s layup attempt in the third quarter and gave a salute to the fans behind the basket.

The Cavaliers made 49 baskets on 39 assists, an NBA sea-



Cleveland Cavaliers’ LeBron James (23) defends Atlanta Hawks’ Dennis Schroder, from Germany, in the third quarter of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014, in Cleveland.

chise-worst, 48-point loss in New Orleans.

Kevin Martin scored a season-high 34 points for Minnesota, which gets three days off before starting a four-game homestand.

Kings 94, Spurs 91

In Sacramento, DeMarcus Cousins had 25 points and 10 rebounds for Sacramento, which had squandered leads of 24 and 26 points in losing its previous two games.

The Kings snapped a nine-game losing streak to the Spurs, who had won 21 of the past 22 meetings.

Darren Collison had 19 points and Rudy Gay scored 18 for the Kings, who committed only nine turnovers.

Manu Ginobili had 21 points, Kawhi Leonard and Danny Green scored 16, and Tim Duncan finished with 15 points and eight rebounds.

Warriors 112, Hornets 87

In Oakland, Klay Thompson scored 21 points, Stephen Curry added 19 points and nine assists, and Golden State beat Charlotte to extend its best start in 20 years.

Andrew Bogut had 13 points and nine rebounds, Harrison Barnes scored 17 points and Marreese Speights had 13 off the bench to help Golden State to its second straight win following consecutive losses.

The Warriors (7-2) remained atop the Pacific Division and matched the start of the 1994-95 Golden State team.

Al Jefferson had 19 points and six rebounds for Charlotte. Lance Stephenson added 16 points.

Blazers 97, Nets 87

In Portland, Damian Lillard had 28 points and 10 assists, and Portland beat Brooklyn despite missing LaMarcus Aldridge.

With its All-Star power forward out with an upper respiratory illness, Portland took an early lead and maintained it against the road-weary Nets, who lost all three games on their western trip.

Reserve center Chris Kaman scored 12 for Portland, which was also missing Nicolas Batum (bruised knee). The Blazers have won four straight.

Brook Lopez led Brooklyn with 21 points, matching up against twin brother Robin for the first time in two years. Joe Johnson added 20 points and Deron Williams had 19 for the Nets, who were coming off losses to Phoenix and Golden State.

son-high.

Joe Harris, who played the final six minutes in Friday’s comeback, entered in the first quarter against the Hawks and hit two 3-pointers in the period. The second-round draft pick, who drilled a 30-footer at the buzzer, scored a career-high 12 points in 21 minutes. ... C Lou Amundson, seeing his first action of the season, scored two points in 9 minutes.

Kyle Korver, who came in averaging 16.1 points, was scoreless in 14 minutes. With the game out of hand, coach Mike Budenholzer gave him the second half off. Thabo Sefolosha started his third straight game in place of DeMarre Carroll (strained groin).

James came into the game averaging 40.4 minutes, second in the league, but played a season-low 29 Saturday. Coach David Blatt would like to decrease that overall total, but as of now has no plans to rest James for a game.

“Right now LeBron has told me he’s feeling good and he’s starting to feel his real game shape,” Blatt said. “So this is not the time to think about resting him. This is the time to allow him to get comfortable and get in his rhythm. He’s been playing great basketball and he looks good physically. For the foreseeable future we’re going to ride that. Would I like to get him a couple of less minutes a game? Yes.”

Clippers 120, Suns 107

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored seven of his 32 points

in the final 2:56 and had nine assists, Blake Griffin added 19 points, and the Los Angeles Clippers beat the Phoenix Suns 120-107 on Saturday night.

All five Clippers starters reached double-digit scoring more than two minutes before the end of the third quarter. DeAndre Jordan finished with 18 rebounds and 12 points for the two-time defending Pacific Division champions, who were coming off an 89-85 loss to the NBA champion San Antonio Spurs. Spencer Hawes had 14 points and eight boards off the bench.

Reserve Gerald Green scored 26 points for Phoenix and was ejected with 1:57 remaining after picking up his second technical foul. Goran Dragic added 19 for the Suns, who shot 38 percent from the field in the opener of a six-game road trip.

Marcus Morris missed nine of 10 shots and finished with three points in 18 minutes. Former Clippers point guard Eric Bledsoe missed all six shots and ended up with one point and 10 assists in 34 minutes.

The Clippers took charge in the third, outscoring Phoenix 42-20 to pull ahead 96-74. They began the second half with a 13-3 run capped by Paul’s 3-pointer and increased the margin to 76-59 on Jordan’s three-point play with 6:23 left in the period.

The Suns, who trailed by as many as 26 points, got as close as 105-94 on a 3-pointer by Isaiah Thomas and a driving layup by Green with 6:01 to play.

Raptors 111, Jazz 93

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan

scored 27 points, Jonas Valanciunas set season highs with 17 points and 14 rebounds, and Toronto beat Utah for its sixth win in seven games.

Kyle Lowry had 19 points, Patrick Patterson added 16 and Lou Williams scored 10 of his 13 in the fourth quarter as the Raptors won their third straight over the Jazz and scored 100 or more for the ninth time in 10 games this season.

Enes Kanter and Derrick Favors each had 18 points, and Gordon Hayward and Trey Burke both scored 12 for the Jazz, who dropped to 0-3 on the second night of back-to-backs as they wrapped up a five-game Eastern Conference road trip.

Alec Burks had 10 points and 10 assists for Utah.

Wizards 98, Magic 93

In Washington, Nene and reserve Kris Humphries scored 16 points apiece, John Wall had 15 points and 10 assists, and Washington improved to 7-2 with a victory over Orlando.

Reserve Otto Porter added 13 points as the Wizards won their third straight and moved to 7-2, their best start since opening 7-1 during the 1974-75 season.

Washington’s bench outscored Orlando’s reserves 48-13.

All five Orlando starters scored in double figures, led by Tobias Harris with 19 points and Victor Oladipo with 18.

Pacers 99, Bulls 90

In Chicago, A.J. Price, Luis Scola and Solomon Hill all scored 21 points, and injury-plagued

Indiana beat Chicago.

Chris Copeland added 13 points for the Pacers, who were without six injured players.

Jimmy Butler had 32 points for the Bulls, who played without the injured Derrick Rose.

The Pacers had lost seven of nine and fell 108-87 to the Nuggets on Friday after trailing by as much as 33. The Bulls had won six of seven.

Grizzlies 95, Pistons 88

In Memphis, Marc Gasol scored 23 points, Zach Randolph added 17 points and 22 rebounds, and Memphis beat Detroit.

Mike Conley added 18 points and Courtney Lee had 12 for the Grizzlies, who maintained the best record in the NBA (9-1).

Kyle Singler scored 21 points, going 5 of 7 from 3-point range to keep the Pistons close. Greg Monroe had 16 points and 11 rebounds for Detroit, while Brandon Jennings scored 14 points and Josh Smith finished with 11.

Mavericks 131, Timberwolves 117

In Dallas, Monta Ellis scored a season-high 30 points and Dallas handed road-weary Minnesota its fifth straight loss to finish a six-game trek that included a stop in Mexico City.

Dirk Nowitzki was another of eight players in double figures with 15 as Dallas had a season high in points, two nights after setting a club record with a 53-point win over Philadelphia.

The Timberwolves finished a two-week trip covering more than 5,600 air miles on a back-to-back that started with a fran-

MHS sweeps past foes in MISO girls caging

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defending champion Marianas High School

played a double-header on Friday at the MHS Gymnasium, but showed no signs of fatigue after pummeling its two opponents in the 2014 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Basketball League.

MHS' first victim was its sister team MHS 9, 45-18, and after a 15-minute break the former had enough gas tank left in hammering out a 63-13 win over Saipan Southern High School. Both teams proved to be an easy prey for the Lady Dolphins, as MHS 9 and the Lady Manta Rays showed little resistance.

The Lady Dolphins, who remained undefeated after eight games, had a slow start against MHS 9 as they only led by 4 after 10 minutes of play, 10-6. They then slowly pulled away in the second before putting the game out of reach in the third. MHS used a balanced offense and a swarming defense in frustrating MHS 9, which committed numerous errors and missed a lot of shots.

Mikayla Lopez led the Lady Dolphins' scoring with 9 points, while Negahr Rastguiy and Joy Pena added 8 apiece. Kyla Ito finished with 7 markers. Dulce Avelino and Maria Dalusong combined for 14 points for MHS



Marianas High School's Negahr Rastguiy, right, drives against a phalanx of Saipan Southern High School defenders in their game in the 2014 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Basketball League last Friday at the MHS Gymnasium.

9, which dropped to a 4-3 record.

Against Saipan Southern, Di-
anne Pablo erupted for 20 points,

while Gabrielle Race added 12
markers in another easy win.

The Lady Dolphins pulled

away early in the first and held
the Lady Mantas to a single
field goal in the second period

to cruise to victory

Patrishia Echavez's baseline drive gave MHS a 20-point bubble, 26-6, with 17.7 seconds left in the opening period, but she sprained her left ankle after making the shot. Serafina Rogoyawa made Saipan Southern's first and only field goal at the 1:51 mark of the second quarter, but MHS was still comfortably ahead, 36-8.

Rogoyawa finished with 4 points for SSSH, Catherine Roque had 3, while Janmilla Alegre, Kristine Pude and Nikki Yutuc each scored 2 each.

In last Wednesday's results, Janasia Travilla and Tawnie Manibusan combined for 43 points as Mt. Carmel School completed a 69-32 crushing of Kagman High School, while SSSH scored a 47-33 decision against MHS junior varsity.

First Game

MHS V 45 – Lopez 9, Pena 8, Rastguiy 8, Ito 7, Lee 4, Vergara 4, Farro 3, Reyes 2.

MHS 9 18 – Avelino 9, Dalusong 5, Bergosa 2, Rios 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-6, 21-7, 32-13, 45-18.

Second Game

MHS V 63 – Pablo 20, Race 12, Lopez 6, Rastguiy 6, Abantao 4, Echavez 4, Ito 4, Lee 4, Pena 3.

SSHS 13 – Rogoyawa 4, Roque 3, Alegre 2, Pude 2, Yutuc 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-6, 38-8, 49-8, 63-13.

Jets to organize softball fundraiser

Jets manager Froilan Camacho is calling on all interested slow-pitch teams to support their fundraising tournament next month at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

The three-day tournament is set from Dec. 12 to 14 and their team will use the proceeds of the fundraiser for their preparation for the upcoming Saipan Baseball League season.

The tournament format will depend on the number of teams joining the competition. Entrance fee is \$100 per team.

A raffle will also be held during the tournament with exciting prizes like water passes at Pacific Islands Club, lunch and dinner buffets certificates at Kanoa Resort, PIC, and World Resort up for grabs.

Raffle ticket costs \$1 each and if you buy five tickets you get one free.

For more information, call or text Camacho at 7890875 or email him at camacho_775@hotmail.com. (Jon Perez)

Saipan Little League president calls out team managers

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. president Benjamin Jones

Sr. is again appealing to all team managers, coaches, or any of their representative to attend the final general membership meeting next week and finalize the league's opening in January.

The final general meeting will be held on Nov. 25, Tuesday, at 5:30pm at the pa-

vilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Jan. 15 is the tentative opening date for the 2015-2016 Saipan Little League season.

Only a handful of managers showed up in their scheduled meeting last Saturday and the SLLBI board, headed by Jones, wants to have a full attendance to discuss other league matters, like the final opening date, registration forms, and entrance fee.

Jones and the entire SLLBI board are asking for every-

one's cooperation to avoid any hitches. They want to finish the season on time so they could prepare the all star teams that will be playing in the CNMI district and Asia-Pacific-Middle East regional tournaments.

"The Nov. 25 meeting will be our last before the season opens in January. So I am asking all managers, coaches or any of their representatives to attend. If you're not present, your team will be out of the program," said Jones.

Aside from the meeting, the SLLBI board has set Dec. 6 as player registration day. They will be at the Ada Gym pavilion from 9am to 12nn to receive the team rosters and other necessary documents.

"Team managers or even the parents can present necessary documents like birth certificates. We will be here on Dec. 6 to assist them in the registration of players," said SLLBI secretary and player agent Piding Tenorio.

Annie Deleon Guerrero Flores (vice president), Malcolm Omar (treasurer), Climaco Laniyo (safety officer) and AJ Murig (chief statistician) are the other SLLBI board members.

For more information, call Tenorio at 285-1024 or Murig at 989-0640.

TAN

From Page 28

United, 2-1, to grab the top spot. However, Tan Holdings was just ahead by two points against MP United, 16-14, and needed the win over Paire to keep the upper hand and clinch the division crown.

"We told our players that we will not settle for anything but a win and they responded to the challenge despite trailing early in the important match versus Paire," Moran said.

Paire's Raffi Lee scored under the 10 minute mark of the first half to put Paire on top, but Tan Holdings players remained persistent with their offense and

their determination was rewarded as a few minutes later Thaiip Austria hit the equalizer.

"After Paire scored we just told our players to keep attacking. We had at least seven shots that could not just go in after Paire scored, so we knew in time the goals will come because the boys were very aggressive," Tanghal said.

Austria got another goal before the first half ended to give Tan Holdings the lead and he capped his season-long brilliance with his third goal, which he made by passing several Paire defenders and then goalie Steven Kileleman.

Joining Austria on the champion team are Angelo Bergan-

cia, Emalyn Aniana, Floyd Muna, Franz Demaros, John Ezikel and John Guiller Canape, Kyla Tuazon, John Michael Rojas, Luis Claridades, Matt Moran, and Nicolas Tkel.

Austria and company gained the division-clinching win versus Paire while MP United was also playing on the other pitch against Kanoa.

"There was some sort of pressure with us and MP United playing at the same time. However, we told our players to keep their focus on our game and do not worry about what's happening on the other pitch. Sometimes they got distracted by the whistles, but still they managed to focus on the task at hand,"

said Moran, who attributed the team's success this season to the players' strong fundamentals and long years of playing.

"We've been training these kids since they were in the U6 age group and through the years they've develop their skills. This (championship) is the fruit of their hard work and dedication in the past five or six years," Moran added.

The title win this season is just perfect, as the team needs some confidence booster when it heads to Guam this weekend for its first off-island tournament. The newly crowned division champion will leave Saipan this Friday and play against four squads in Guam.

SONIC

From Page 28

The Trench Tech fighter defeated stablemate and former wrestler Adam Harris in a winner-take-all match for the gold in the Open weight gi division.

Alvarez won by submission after forcing Harris to tap following a suicide samurai choke.

Harris seemed to be in control early in the bout, but Alvarez managed to wiggle out of his hold to turn things to his favor en route to victory.

Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez, Vince "The Clinch" Masga, and

promising 18-year-old Lorenzo Attao were the other participants in the Open gi class.

Roman Alvarez also defeated Jasper Van De Maas and cousin Shane Alvarez to win the gold medals in the lightweight and welterweight divisions.

Van Der Maas' semifinal match against "Bad" Brad Palacios was an exciting bout to watch as the former, way behind in points, managed to pull off a come-from-behind win to earn the right of facing Roman Alvarez in the lightweight finals.

The taller Van Der Maas was trailing, 2-17, as Palacios quick-

ly built a double-digit lead with his aggressive attacks and take downs. Van Der Maas, with 15 seconds left, managed to pull off the upset by a straight ankle lock.

Palacios clinched the lightweight bronze, while Shane Alvarez and Gracie Barra's Kimo Lizama settled for the silver and bronze medals in the welterweight division.

Lorenzo Attao, fighting out of Gracie Barra, topped the flyweight division with MCA MMA's Jadrien Camacho and Zalaka's Denny Jepen bagging the silver and bronze medals.

Jordan Manglona won the

bantamweight and featherweight gold medals by frustrating Tinian's Paul Ayuyu in both finals. Mark "The Dark" Nuique placed third in the featherweight division.

Adam Harris was also a double-gold medal winner in the middleweight and heavyweight categories.

Van Der Maas finished second behind Harris in the middleweight division, while Kier Agda of Strike Force came in third. Agda then added the silver in the heavyweight class after losing to Harris in the finals, while Slade "The Rage" Adelbai settled for the bronze.

Monday.

With Fernando and company hitting their targets consistently in the first three periods, Shirley's played catch up all night and fell short, as only Duenas and Esdrelon caught fire for the team. Duenas had a game-high 30 points, but was held to 4 points in the fourth as he played without relief, while Esdrelon tallied 29.

Rabasto also finished in twin digits for Shirley's with his 11, but he could not get baskets in streaks. Lerio Pagarao was the fourth Shirley's player to break in double figures with his 10 points, but he had more misses than conversions, as his flashy moves did not work against MBI/Anchor.

MBI/Anchor 93 – Fernando 28, Devero 18, Capalad 18, Lizama 15, Zapanta 6, Trajano 4, Diola 4.

Shirley's 89 – Duenas 20, Esdrelon 29, Rabasto 11, Pagarao 10, Usi 4, Jugos 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-13, 52-38, 70-57, 93-89

SSC All Schools Swimming Championships

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Marianas High School's Salofi Welch competes in the 50m butterfly race in Saipan Swim Club's 21st All Schools Swimming Championships held last Nov. 8 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



Whispering Palms' Matthew Zedde competes in the 100m breast-stroke race.



Whispering Palms' Dominic Zedde breathes during the 100m freestyle event.



A female swimmer joins the 50m freestyle event.



Two swimmers get ready at the starting block.



Eucon International School's Victoria Nicole Santos and Kaith Lynn Chavez race in the 50m freestyle event.



Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School's Nieves Villagomez is in a pensive mood as she waits for her race.



Two male swimmers engage in a neck-and-neck race in the 50m freestyle swim.



Japan tops
MLB All-Stars
with no-hitter

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Cavs make
first 11
3-pointers,
beat Hawks

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Tan Holdings FC bags co-ed U12 title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club earned its second division title in the fall season of the 2014 NMIFA Youth League after beating Paire Football Club in the co-ed U12 game, 2-1, last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Tan Holdings FC, which notched the boys U15 division crown early this month, added the co-ed U2 division championship to its collection as the win over Paire helped the team secure the No. 1 spot in the three-round robin tournament. Tan Holdings FC finished the competition with



a 6-2-1 win-draw-loss record, narrowly beating MP United FC, which ended its campaign in the four-team league with a 6-1-2 slate. With its better record, Tan Holdings collected 20 points in the tournament, while MP United got 19, as it also won its final game against Kanoa FC last weekend, 4-2.

"It was a tough season with MP United and Paire giving us tough time every game. Fortu-

nately, our players remained focus in the last two crucial games so we were able to pull this one," said Tan Holdings coach Mico Moran, who was assisted by Bogs Tanghal.

Before the victory against Paire, Moran's wards edged MP

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Players, officials, and coaches of Tan Holdings FC's U12 team pose for a photo during their victory party yesterday in Koblerville. The club bagged the U12 division title of the 2014 NMIFA Fall Youth League after beating Paire FC, 2-1, last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



'Sonic Boom' leads Art of War winners



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Roman 'Sonic Boom' Alvarez scooped up three gold medals in three weight divisions in Saturday's Art of War 9: Grappling, Submission and Jiu-Jitsu Challenge at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Fight fans were treated to exciting matches all throughout the day, as they witnessed the origin of mixed martial arts. The final event was the Open weight gi division with five fighters

JON PEREZ
Roman Alvarez, right, uses the suicide samurai choke in forcing Adam Harris to submission in the Open weight division of the Art of War 9: Grappling, Submission and Jiu-Jitsu Challenge held last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

TRENCH TECH
showing the highly technical side of grappling and submission fighting.

Alvarez ruled the Open weight gi event to highlight his three-gold medal haul. He went undefeated in the tournament as he also topped the lightweight and welterweight divisions.

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MBI/Anchor forces do-or-die Game 3

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Micronesian Brothers, Inc. lived for another day, following a 93-89 win over Shirley's Coffee Shop in Game 2 of their best-of-three title showdown in the 2014 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Friday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

MBI/Anchor ended Shirley's 10-game winning streak in the inaugural league and more importantly forced the deciding

Game 3, which will be played today at 7pm. MBI/Anchor controlled Game 2 right at the buzzer and withstood Shirley's fourth-quarter rally to tie the short finals series.

Shirley's, which won Game 1, 89-80, fell behind by as much as 18 points before cutting the deficit to three, but ran out of time to finish the series. It threatened MBI/Anchor with a 16-3 scoring run for about five minutes with Elmer Esdreton capping the rally with back-to-back triples, the second one bouncing back inside the rim to move Shirley's within five, 78-83, with 2:23 left in the match.

Shirley's had a chance to inch in closer when MBI/Anchor fal-

tered another shot on the other end, but there was a miscue in the former's offensive set with Joseph Aguilar getting the pass intended to Matt Duenas and pulling up for a baseline jumper. Aguilar missed, paving the way for White Capalad's fastbreak attack. Capalad missed the layup, as he was fouled by Sean Rabasto, but he made both charities to give MBI/Anchor more cushion, 85-78, going into the last two minutes of the match.

MBI/Anchor then cashed in on two more field goals and three free throws to bring the lead back to twin digits, but Shirley's refused to wave the white flag, hitting three of their last four baskets from down-

town. Rabasto drained the third triple to cut the deficit to three, 89-92, but only 7.5 seconds were left in the game with MBI/Anchor having the possession.

With the clock ticking, Shirley's was forced to give up a foul and send Capalad to the 15-foot line. Capalad, who earlier went 2-for-2 from the stripe this

See MBI on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MBI/Anchor's Ivan Devero pulls up for a jumper against Shirley's Ariel Drillon and Elmer Esdreton during the second quarter of Game 2 of their title series in the JP World caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

